FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ALFONSIN ADDRESSES B'NAI B'RITH CONVENTION

PY171351 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Aug 85 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin told the 14th Convention of the XX District of the B'nai B'rith that individual and group egoism was the worst enemy of democracy. Speaking in the General San Martin Cultural Center, Alfonsin also described anti-Semitism as a "terrible social disease," although he added that discrimination had rarely troubled the good relations between Jewish and gentile Argentines. A delegation of 400 world B'nai B'rith leaders was also on hand. The organization, headed by Gerald Kraft, is the oldest in the Jewish community.

PRESIDENT ON RADICAL PARTY CAMPAIGN MESSAGE

PY162259 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 15 Aug 85 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin yesterday urged Radical Party members to keep the tone of the UCR [Radical Civic Union] campaign message for the upcoming November 3 congressional by-elections "reasonable and down to earth", avoiding "all demagoguery and slogan-mongering, because that is what the people reject". Following the meeting with the President, Radical Lower House Majority Leader Cesar Jaroslavsky said in his opinion the Justicialist Party "is launching its election campaign with the unified CGT announced August 29 nationwide strike and mobilization". But in a sense, he continued, "the Peronists are already into the campaign with the attitude they've adopted in Congress" and their official backing of the strike. Jaroslavsky said it looks like the Peronist campaign will be based on opposition to the economic reform plan. "That's important," he said, "because it will clarify everyone's position".

CAPUTO ON SOUTH AFRICA, FALKLANDS CONFLICT

PY161809 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has stated that the South African issue is a delicate matter. The foreign minister said the severance of relations with South Africa is an extremely delicate matter that must be handled with great care. He said Argentina must adopt decisions regarding South Africa on its own. We will review every proposal and then we will draft our own, he added. Caputo said the statements made by the South African president will be carefully reviewed, although these statements do not convincingly express a willingness to change the status quo. Rather, those statements seem to ratify the past trend, Caputo noted.

Concerning the Malvinas issue, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said diplomatic actions are always slower than forceful actions. Caputo said steady efforts have been made over the past 20 months concerning the Malvinas issue. These efforts now count toward the prestige of a country that has fully joined the international community.

CNEA CHAIRMAN COSTANTINI ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY161918 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Excerpt] National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA] Chairman Alberto Costantini has said the Sierra Pintada uranium mine in southern Mendoza Province is still active. This mine will not stop operating because without this mine, the CNEA would have to halt its nuclear power plants, he added.

Concerning projects at the Atucha II power plant and the heavy water plant, Costantini said an effort is being made to implement a program that will allow us to complete those projects amid our current economic difficulties as soon as possible. Costantini made it clear that the delay in the projects is causing unproductive expenses that are truly alarming, expenses that are a considerable burden for the national economy, of course. Nevertheless, as far as personnel is concerned the nuclear program is being implemented, Costantini stressed.

DEPUTY THREATENS TO RESIGN TO ANSWER CHARGES

PY161939 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD 15 Aug 85 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- The Justicialist Senate caucus, until early yesterday afternoon the largest in the upper house, seemed to have formally split into two later in the day, while the most lively of the many developments concerning representatives of Peronism was a vituperative exchange of opinions between lower house Deputy Norberto Imbelloni and journalist Guillermo Patricio Kelly.

Imbelloni was so upset at being called a cocaine smuggler and drug addict (pichicatero) that he threatened to resign his seat in order to have full freedom of action to respond to whom he would only call G.P.K. Kelly accused Imbelloni and Buenos Aires Peronist leader Herminio Iglesias of being in league with former Buenos Aires Province Police Chief Ramon Camps and suspected rightwing terrorists Raul Guglielminetti and Anibal Gordon and even Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner to prevent congressional elections being held in November. Kelly told Radio Rivadavia that Stroessner had given Iglesias one million dollars to undermine Argentine democracy. In a press conference given in a downtown bar he later added that he would be asking Federal Judge Fernando Archimbal today to forbid Imbelloni from leaving the country and said Guglielminetti had visited Gordon in prison while the former was an intelligence officer.

The latter was also in the news yesterday with an alleged letter in the daily CRONICA saying that the Radicals were the only people interested in preventing Guglielminetti's extradition from Spain since he was part of a plot to divide Peronism and murder Iglesias. The letter said Guglielminetti deliberately planned and developed a rightwing cell within intelligence shortly before the change of government in 1983, adding that he later supplied weapons to Radical Youth or "the Montoneros of (President Raul) Alfonsin." In Gordon's alleged letter, he also accused Kelly of having a foreign paymaster and of reporting to Guglielminetti. The letter further called for an amnesty law.

CHARGES FILED IN 'CONSPIRACY' AGAINST F. CASTRO

PY162349 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0035 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Aug (TELAM) -- Journalist Alberto Silletta has filed criminal charges against General Ramon Genaro Diaz Bessone, retired, former planning minister of the military dictatorship, in the Federal Court of Judge Miguel del Castillo, accusing the general of participating in last February's conspiracy to assassinate Fidel Castro.

Silletta accuses Diaz Bessone of allegedly violating Article 219 of the Penal Code which punishes hostile acts that have not been approved by the national government and which are aimed at obstructing the friendly relations of the Argentine Government with other countries. The journalist also asks that newspaper items on the actions carried out by Diaz Bessone be included in the charges, because they, too, may constitute a public offense.

The accusation says that in mid-February an organization named the International Security Council, which is part of the Moon sect, held a congress in Paris with the participation of about 100 high-ranking officers from throughout the world. The purpose of the meeting was to study Soviet penetration in the Caribbean, and was attended by Argentine officers Admiral Raul Fitte and Generals Manuel Mallea Gil, Osiris Villegas, and Bessone. Silletta stresses that the congress justified political genocide and extolled the doctrine of security. This congress also voted on the proposal to assassinate Cuban President Fidel Castro as a means of obtaining peace in Latin America, according to Diaz Bessone's initiative.

According to Silletta, the violation of Article 219 of the Penal Code is proven if one takes into account that Argentina maintains diplomatic and trade relations with Cuba. Therefore, there is a clear demonstration of hostility on the part of a general of the nation, even though he is retired, when he participates with other high-ranking military chiefs in an international congress of the nature that has been outlined and at which a clear antidemocratic position was supported.

CGT GETS SUPPORT FOR SOCIOECONOMIC PROPOSAL

PY171214 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Aug 85 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The General Confederation of Labour (CGT) received the support of the Christian Democrat and Movement for Integration and Development (MID) parties yesterday for their July 30 socio-economic proposal and August 29 rally, while labour protests intensified across the country. "The recessive policy implemented by the government has brought on more unemployment and paralyzed more industries than almost any other moment in our country's history," the CGT affirmed, while worker unrest heightened throughout the land.

Two hundred hard-hats fired by the Pon Vet Construction Company in Buenos Aires peacefully occupied a worksite in the Constitution neighbourhood and 85 metallurgy workers did the same in Metalurgico Estructura Tucuman in demand of unpaid wages. The construction workers union (UOCRA) said 50,639 union members have been laid off or suspended since the government's economic plan began two months ago.

The Foundation for Latin American Economic Research (FIEL) also informed that 46 percent of workers in manufacturing industries in the capital and Greater Buenos Aires -- about 230,000 people -- were either fired, suspended, had their extra hours reduced or cut off, or were given advance vacations. Municipal employees filled downtown Santa Fe yesterday, highlighting their week-long protest for July wages and 30,000 Buenos Aires City hospital workers began four hour per shift strikes because public health authorities have reneged on wage scales approved by the City Council.

Private oil workers have declared a "state of alert," maritime workers (SOMU) will strike for 24 hours today, and Cordoba Obras Sanitarias workers announce protest measures. While 25 Tucuman judges filed a suit in the provincial supreme court against the local government because their salaries have not kept up with inflation, an appeals court in the capital confirmed a lower court's ruling ordering the state to pay 28 magistrates the wage differences they claim between November of last year and May, 1985. Finally, on the labor front, the teachers confederation (CTERA) begins a three-day plenary today in Cordoba to elect new authorities and consider the incorporation of the teachers union.

Radicals Oppose Mobilization

PY172359 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Aug 85 p 9

[Text] (NA-DYN) CGT Secretaries General Saul Ubaldini and Ramon Baldassini visited Radical Party headquarters last night to deliver a copy of their July 30 statement of socio-economic proposals and invite their response. The two secretaries-general, who were accompanied by bank clerks' leader Juan Jose Zanola, were received by Senator Adolfo Gass (Radical-Buenos Aires), who called on the CGT to look for solutions "without mobilizing." Nevertheless, the two sides agreed on the need to fight inflation and achieve economic recovery. The visit was part of a general CGT policy of asking all political parties and business entities to indicate their stance on the statement and the strike called for August 29. The Popular Socialists, who declared their support, were the other party on today's agenda.

Meanwhile, hospital workers in Tucuman began an indefinite strike yesterday and continue four-hour stoppages per shift (through next Monday) in the Federal Capital, only treating emergency cases. The Argentine Confederation of Transport (CATAC) yesterday announced its million trucks would be on an indefinite strike as from September 6. The unions of both construction workers (UOCRA) and teachers (CTERA) were also in the news yesterday, together with SMATA [Trade Union of Mechanics and Related Automotive Transportation Workers] auto workers' union leader Jose Rodriguez. The SMATA union chief said there would be no problems in calling off the August 29 strike if there were a guarantee of workers' claims being taken seriously. Rodriguez said the government's economic policy was "deepening the recession" and added that work rather than pay was the priority and criticized the government for contemplating collective bargaining without wage talks.

UOCRA reported that 58,316 members of their union had been laid off or suspended in the last two months while another 17,774 were on permanent strike. They said the average building worker was earning 87.20 australs a month when a four-member family needs 268.75 australs according to CGT calculations.

For their part, CTERA opened their plenary meeting in Huerta Grande, Cordoba, their first in 10 years, with 457 delegates present. The meeting is expected to request that the government pump more money into education and to end in the election of Radical-leaning Press Secretary Rebecca Berflein as union secretary-general, the only woman to occupy such a post in the country. Acting Secretary-General Carlos de la Torre and Mendoza Peronist Marcos Garcetti are her main rivals unless there is agreement on a single list. The incorporation of the rival Peronist-dominated UDA union will also be considered. Education secretary Bernardo Sola indirectly anticipated teacher demands yesterday by saying education spending would rise from the present level of 10 percent of the budget to 25 percent by the end of President Raul Alfonsin's term in 1989.

COMMUNIST MILITANT 'KIDNAPPED,' QUESTIONED

PY19C229 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2338 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Aug (NA) -- Several armed individuals, who identified themselves as belonging to the Buenos Aires Province police, kidnapped a communist militant from Avellaneda and held him for 5 hours. They questioned him intensely, but did not mistreat him, about the recent murder of another Communist Party militant. The information was released by the Communist Youth Federation [FJC] of Avellaneda and the report indicates that the victim was Rodolfo Enriquez, who was forced into a red Fiat 600 and taken to an outlying area.

The FJC has repudiated "this new attack by these policemen or parapolicemen who are trying in every way to intimidate residents of neighborhoods, who are demanding justice. This type of incident is a direct attack against democracy."

Enriquez, who lives in the same Buenos Aires Province neighborhood in which Vilar, who was murdered on 21 July, lived, was seized at approximately 2200 on 16 August when he was approaching his home and was taken by three individuals to an outlying district where he was questioned about the persons who had witnessed Vilar's murder, a case that has not yet been cleared up. According to the FJC report, the kidnappers were armed and "they identified themselves as belonging to the Buenos Aires Province police."

ANTI-STROESSNER PROTEST STAGED IN BUENOS AIRES

PY171237 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0111 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Aug (NA) -- Paraguayan political leaders, most of them living in exile, tonight harshly criticized the government of that country during a demonstration "repudiating the dictatorship of Alfredo Stroessner," in which approximately 350 persons participated. Domingo Laino, leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, stated that the demonstration had the objective of contributing to putting an end to the "state terrorism" practiced in Paraguay.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel and Christian Democrat Deputy Augusto Conte were among the Argentine participants. They condemned the Paraguayan regime when they spoke to the crowd.

The demonstration was held at the Plaza de la Republica, where a stand had been erected next to the obelisk, and the participants, the majority of whom were Paraguayans, carried Paraguayan flags and placards with slogans against Stroessner's government. In addition to Laino, the following Paraguayan political leaders also participated: Arnaldo Baldovinos, for the Frontist Revolutionary Party [possibly the Febrerist Revolutionary Party]; and Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, for the Popular Colorado Party in Exile (Mopoco). Also present were Luis Resck for the Christian Democratic Party, Omar Espindola for the Paraguayan Communist Party, and Idalina de Tatter for the Relatives of Paraguayans Missing in Argentina.

Speaking to the participants, Laino said: "This is not a mere act of repudiation, hatred or bitterness; it is an act for peace and love to demand an end to state terrorism in Paraguay. In my country," he added, "the popular classes, especially the campesinos, are being buried." He said "they suffer torture, hunger, and misery." He also said, "The path to final victory is to be found in the unity of all Paraguayans against the dictatorship that is our scourge."

Perez Esquivel stated that in Paraguay there is "a sinister dictatorship" and he said that "a dictatorship in Latin America affects all Latin Americans." He expressed his concern over "the presence of members of the Argentine Armed Forces" in that country and he stressed that in this respect "dictatorship should not be supported."

Deputy Conte said, "Argentina is doing very little for the Paraguayans," and he termed the Paraguayan Government "the worst dictatorship in Latin America." He also criticized "some Argentine politicians who pay tribute to Stroessner" and he placed himself "at the services of Paraguay's freedom."

Gonzalez Casabianca urged participants "to fight until the end of Stroessner's dictatorship, which places us in poverty and which is an infection of the political stability of Latin America." He also stated that Paraguay is currently "a rubbish dump where all international criminals take refuge" and he stressed that the country has become a "bridgehead for drug trafficking."

GISBERT ON PEOPLE'S SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAM

PY161423 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Finance Minister Roberto Gisbert in an impromptu press conference in his office has said that in order to solve the crisis, it is more important to have the support of the people than the support of the international community.

According to Gisbert, the government has economic reasons to implement the new measures and the important thing is for the government to have the people's support. He said Bolivians are aware of the crisis and are going to support the government's economic program because they want to live in reality. He reiterated that the economic measures under study are being harmonized and a final decision will soon be made. He said the National Economic and Planning Council is going to meet in the next few weeks but this does not necessarily mean that the economic measures are going to be announced after that meeting. He also did not confirm or deny that the new economic measures are going to be promulgated this week or next.

Asked about Bolivia's international economic programs, Gisbert said it is much more important to solve domestic problems first and then face Bolivia's international economic problems.

CONGRESS' TRIAL OF GARCIA MEZA TO RESUME

PY160309 Paris AFP in Spanish 1447 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] La Paz, 15 Aug (AFP) -- The Socialist Party One (PS-1) announced here today that it will resume in Congress the trial against former de facto President General Luis Garcia Meza regarding his responsibility in the murder of Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz, the party's one-time leader. The murder was committed on 17 July 1980, the day that Garcia Meza and his interior minister, Luis Arce Gomez, who is also on trial, took over the government after overthrowing Lidia Gueiler Tejada, the interim constitutional president. Roger Cortez, a PS-1 deputy, told AFP, when he made the announcement, that the fight against the impunity of those who committed very serious crimes against Bolivians is a basic condition for the strengthening of the democratic process. The trial started at the beginning of 1983, but was interrupted.

MILITARY FACTORY WORKERS BEGIN INDEFINITE STRIKE

PY161625 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1430 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The situation in the (San Miguel) Military Factory has worsened because the workers have decided to go on an indefinite general strike. We reported yesterday that the (San Miguel) workers were on a 24-hour strike demanding benefits such as vacation bonuses and payment for the days not worked last March during the strike ordered by the Bolivian Labor Federation. The 24-hour strike was supposed to end today but when the workers arrived at the factory they found it had been taken over by a military police unit. This is why they decided to go on an indefinite general strike. They said this measure will not be lifted until their demands are met and the military unit leaves the factory.

The workers are also demanding that the factory manager be replaced because his arrogant attitude created this conflict. They also said the (San Miguel) problem is being discussed at the Labor Ministry level and they hope a solution will be found in the next few days.

SARNEY DISCUSSES FOREIGN DEBT, IMF NEGOTIATIONS

PY170215 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Aug 85 p 7

["Text" of press conference held by President Jose Sarney in Montevideo on 14 August -- questioners unidentified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, my question refers to Brazil's negotiations with the IMF over the foreign debt, more specifically, to the creditor banks. In this regard, we want to know if Brazil will apply a selective criterion by giving preference to those countries offering more facilities for negotiating the foreign debt.

[Sarney] Brazil's position on the foreign debt is well-defined. We believe that we must deal with the foreign debt issue along two totally different lines. One concerns financial negotiations with our creditors, which should be conducted with the IMF, and with the banks to seek agreements with them. The other concerns political negotiations, which we believe are very important because they are directly tied to the financial aspect. We must promote these political negotiations in international circles, maintaining the view that the foreign debt cannot be paid as long as the existing economic order is maintained, a protectionist order that prevents free trade. On the other hand, the right of the developed countries to unilaterally increase the interest rates on our debt creates an unbearable situation for our people. Moreover, we cannot permit our countries to be constantly urged to generate export surpluses in order to service the foreign debt. Our priority must be placed on economic growth, on rejecting any type of recession.

[Question] Mr President, yesterday, at the General Assembly in Uruguay you said that the debt cannot be paid at the cost of recession, or unemployment, or hunger; the responsibility is the same for both the one who grants it and the one who receives it. I ask, Mr President, if our international creditors should not accept our proposals to settle the debt, will Brazil go so far as to break off with the IMF?

[Sarney] Brazil is one of the founders of the IMF, and as all member countries, we have the obligation to consult every year with the IMF about the performance of our economy. However, it is obvious that the IMF, which was created to resolve short-term problems with foreign exchange, has become some sort of international auditor, and as such it applies some criteria. Well, we do not agree with those criteria. We are having difficult negotiations with the IMF, particularly because Brazil refuses to accept a recessionary policy. We believe that without economic growth, no country can meet its commitments, be they internal or external. A recessionary policy is the worst policy for developing countries because it generates unemployment. It leads to economic stagnation, to social unrest which nearly always has fueled institutional crises. I have said that Brazil does not represent an economic risk, because it has great potential. However, it can become a political risk if we lose sight of what the country represents and if we do not incessantly defend the country's right to maintain a level of economic development.

[Question] What I want to ask you, Mr President, is whether, in your meetings with President Sanguinetti, the possibility of undertaking joint actions in support of Latin American regimes, that are not perhaps very democratic, was evaluated, considering that the statements made by both of you have been supportive of democracy.

[Sarney] I believe that in the area of foreign policy today, Brazil's priorities are in Latin America. The fact that the president of Brazil starts a new historical period by visiting Uruguay demonstrates that we now have a reality common to all of us. The resurgence of democracy is certainly the best connecting link in Latin America. We must make a joint effort to consolidate democracy in Latin America. We have had few instances, throughout our history, in which our situation has been like the one we have today. We are all living in a period of rennaisance, of great hopes for a consolidated democracy. We wish this to be the beginning of a definitive era, opening the roads of individual freedoms, human rights, civil liberties, and institutional strength.

[Question] Mr President, do you believe that it will be possible for Brazil to sign an agreement with the IMF this year? In the context of renegotiation of the Brazilian foreign debt, what importance do you attach to reaching such an agreement.

[Sarney] We have not signed an agreement with the IMF precisely because our points of view are different. Brazil, as I have said, and I must repeat, has adhered to its position of not relinquishing two important conditions. First, our economy must grow by 5 percent this year; this is a basic position. Second, in the exercise of our sovereignty, we have determined the readjustments we consider bearable. We then presented our position to the IMF, and we have not yet reached an agreement. Brazil will hold fast to its decision that we must make the adjustments ourselves in the exercise of our sovereignty and looking out for our interests. However, we are willing to continue negotiating with the IMF without relinquishing our viewpoints, which are nonnegotiable because the country's economic growth is nonnegotiable.

[Question] General Vernon Walters, the U.S. representative to the United Nations, has said that he did not rule out the possibility that his country may militarily intervene in Nicaragua. How do you view this assertion, taking into account that both Uruguay and Brazil have decided to back the efforts being made by the Contadora Group?

[Sarney] The joint position of Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina has been extremely positive regarding their policy toward Central America. We defend the view that the possibility of a negotiated solution to the problem of Nicaragua should not be squandered, by any means. We do not accept any violent formula for solving the Central American problem. The Contadora Group is the most appropriate forum that has been established to solve the problem. Although our countries are not members of the Contadora Group, our wish has been to strengthen that Group so that it can attain its objective. We are at this time trying to revitalize the Contadora Group through some effective measures to allow it to contribute decisively to reestablishing peace in the Central American area.

[Question] Mr President, do you believe that joint action by the bloc of debtor countries would be necessary to politically negotiate the debt of the Latin American countries? Do you believe in that possibility in the face of the difficulties the Latin American countries find, for instance, on the part of the United States, which is reluctant to recognize the Cartagena Consensus?

[Sarney] In trying to bring about a political discussion of the debt, we Latin Americans created the Cartagena forum, in addition to any other forum in which each one of us can exert influence and raise a voice. We are interested in strengthening the Cartagena Group so that it can better fulfill the objective for which it was created.

As for the joint negotiation of the foreign debt problem, we have great difficulties because of the concerns each country has in solving its own problem. This does not preclude having a joint vision of the need to create a new international political [as published] order. This is the unifying link of our countries as far as the foreign-debt issue is concerned. On the financial aspect, we believe that joint negotiation will be difficult because each country has its individual problems. It would be desirable, but it is impossible.

[Question] Mr President, you spoke of the need to create new conditions in the international economic area in order to improve the situation of the underdeveloped countries. What would be the instruments to bring about those conditions, considering that the countries of Latin America have for so long lived under the yoke of the industrialized countries?

[Sarney] We can see that the current system has badly hurt our economies. Nowadays, we can see in Uruguayan and Brazilian papers that the balance of international trade has declined. All the economies of developed countries are structured so that our trade surpluses are siphoned off to them. On the other hand, the prices of our raw materials are always lower. More and more, the developed countries close their doors to free trade, their protectionist laws bar the entry of our products into their markets. On the financial front, the establishing of high interest rates is the decision of those governments alone; we have no say. In our area, this system leaves us defenseless. We politicians, who are responsible for the governments of our countries, sense that such a system cannot last much longer. It cannot function because it is the seed of great injustice, and also because it cannot produce the results expected from it and so it cannot be maintained. The poverty and economic weakness in our area will end up eroding the economy of the developed countries. This is why there is a need to modify that international order. Our proposal, that is, of all the Latin American countries -- and we discussed this with President Sanguinetti -- is not an ideological proposal, because we do not want to politicize the economic problem, we are not interested in turning the foreign-debt issue into an East-West confrontation. We are not interested in creating deadlocks. But we are conscious of our responsibilities and our interests. This is why we raise our voice to say that the present international economic order is the seed of injustice and that this injustice cannot last.

[Question] Mr President, President Sanguinetti and President Alfonsin have already voiced their decision to send soldiers to Central America to take part in a peace-keeping force to patrol a security zone between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. I would like to know whether the Brazilian Government would also be willing to take part of this peace-keeping force.

[Sarney] I think that this is just an idea that have been raised. So far nothing concrete has been decided regarding the measures to be taken to restore peace in Central America. I do not believe that our participation in an international force, in that international force, is in keeping with Brazil's spirit. We would be faced with many domestic problems to participate in a measure of that type, but I think that there are many other ways in which we can help to find a peaceful solutions to the Central American problem. In order to help, Brazil is willing to contribute its prestige, its voice, and its diplomatic actions without necessarily participating in any international force.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to hear your opinion regarding the military bases established on the Malvinas Islands and, now, on Easter Island?

[Sarney] Brazil has voiced its full solidarity with Argentina by acknowledging its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and, at the same time, by voicing our desire to place our country at the service of a peaceful and negotiated solution that will be in keeping with our long-time policy.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to know whether the Brazilian Government has a definite stance regarding the resumption of diplomatic relations with Cuba. I would also like to know what aspects of this relationship are being examined; are they merely political aspects or are they more specific aspects referring to national security?

[Sarney] It is normal for countries to maintain diplomatic relations. The lack of such relations is abnormal. We already had the opportunity of pointing this out. An international situation that no longer exists prevailed when Brazil broke relations with Cuba. It is in this respect that we have requested that the resumption of relations with Cuba be evaluated. However, according to our laws, we must listen to what the National Security Council has to say. I would like to quote what our great leader, President Tancredo Neves, said in answering a similar question in Mexico City where he said that it was a national security issue. When he said this he was referring to the fact that, according to our laws, the National Security Council must voice its opinion regarding the resumption of relations with Cuba or any other country. This issue is now in the hands of the National Security Council and I believe that we will soon have a solution to the problem. However, this by no means has affected the way in which we have tackled the Cuban problem. We have sent delegations in the cultural and sports fields to Cuba. We have also received the visit of Cuban congressmen and our relationships are gradually returning to normal, within an atmosphere of absolute tranquillity, without emotion.

[Question] Mr President, nowadays there is great interest in the modus vivendi of the black race. With all respect, Mr President, I would like to know why Itamaraty does not have a man of my race among its officials?

[Sarney] I believe that we have persons that do not belong to the white race within Itamaraty, but this is because there is no discrimination in Brazil regarding the creed, the race and because we are a true racial democracy and are very proud of this. Regarding the "apartheid" policy, for example, we have just issued a decree establishing sanctions against South Africa in the commercial, cultural, and sports field. If I may add something personal I would like to point out that I am a veteran in the struggle against "apartheid." In 1961 I was Brazilian delegate to the United Nations and this subject had just started to be discussed by the sociopolitical commission. At that time I had the opportunity to strongly protest South Africa's "apartheid" policy.

[Question] Mr President, what is your government's stance regarding the African racial problems and what sanctions might it adopt?

[Sarney] As I have already pointed out, we have always exerted as much pressure as possible to condemn the apartheid policy through all the diplomatic channels.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to hear your opinion about the joint Brazilian-U.S. maneuvers called "Unitas."

[Sarney] We have been carrying out joint training maneuvers, not only with U.S. forces but with forces of other countries of our region, for many years. I believe that we are merely fulfilling, within normalcy, what we have been doing for many years not only with the United States but with other Latin American countries.

[Question] During your visit to Uruguay there was much talk about the need for a greater integration among the Latin American countries. During this interview you asserted that one of the links between the Latin American countries is the return to democracy. To what extent does the existence of some authoritarian regimes, such as that of General Stroessner in Paraguay and that of General Pinochet in Chile, affect this effort to unite the southern cone?

[Sarney] Brazil's policy has always been one of nonintervention and of respect for the self-determination of the people. To describe the Brazilian position, that was also outlined later by President Tancredo Neves, I should also point out that our political parties have every right to examine this problem on their own and we can in no way fail to state that we would be extremely satisfied if democracy were strengthened everywhere on the continent. Thank you very much, to everyone of you.

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS DEBT, CUBAN RELATIONS

PY160056 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Aug 85 pp 6-8

[Interview with Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal by O GLOBO reporter Cristina Veiga in Brasilia on 10 August]

[Text] [Veiga] Minister Setubal, the government has defended the idea that the debt of the developing countries should be negotiated politically. From Itamaraty's viewpoint, how should that negotiation be conducted?

[Setubal] The political negotiation we have referred to is not necessarily the negotiation of the foreign debt, but that of the rules governing the international financial structure. This is what we call for. Those rules can only be modified by countries in a position to participate in the negotiation, by members of the IMF, or, eventually, by an international meeting called for that purpose.

[Veiga] Does Brazil then defend the idea of a meeting of debtor and creditor countries to discuss the foreign debt problem?

[Setubal] That would be our highest ambition. The realization of this wish of the developing countries is still far off. There are no signals on the international stage that such a meeting would be viable in the foreseeable future. We defended a political negotiation of the foreign debt through the Cartagena Consensus, the signatories of which understand that the reestablishment of the flow of financial resources from outside the financial market is important for Latin America because the market forces are themselves at this time insufficient to restore that flow. Therefore, that flow can only be reestablished by the governments, which should be sensitized to that effect. This would be achieved through a political negotiation with the governments of creditor countries.

[Veiga] How did the governments of the creditor countries receive that idea?

[Setubal] The creditor countries have not demonstrated any desire to negotiate political solutions with the signatories of the Cartagena Consensus. On the contrary, the position of the United States and the majority of the creditor countries is that the foreign debt should be discussed within the existing channel through the IMF.

[Veiga] The Cartagena Consensus would like to see the U.S. banking law modified in order to permit better agreements between the banks and the debtor countries. Is that possible?

[Setubal] This is one of the items that would be introduced in the agenda of the political discussion of the foreign debt, seeking an eventual modification of the rules that are applied to the U.S. bnaks. A more convenient solution for the Latin American countries could then be obtained.

[Veiga] What other items could be included in that agenda?

[Setubal] Another important item would be, as I said before, the flow of investment resources. Latin America needs these investments and its private financial market cannot provide them because of the high degree of indebtedness that now exists. We may have to follow the line suggested by former U.S. State Department Secretary Henry Kissinger, that is, the adoption of a Marshall Plan for Latin America.

[Veiga] Instead of the inflow of new resources, we have seen the outflow of hard currency from Latin America to the developed countries.

[Setubal] Last year alone, there was a net transfer of resources on the order of $30 billion from the Latin American countries to the developed countries. This is a mammoth transfer of resources from Latin America to the creditor countries, especially considering the extreme dearth of capital in Latin America.

[Veiga] Would it not be in the interest of the debtor countries to discuss this situation en masse, since all of them face an identical situation?

[Setubal] No. Not all the debtor countries have the same difficulties and this is precisely the reason why they cannot negotiate en masse. Brazil's difficulties are quite different from those of Peru or Mexico. Peru has a debt that is higher than Brazil's in proportion to its exports and gross domestic product. Mexico has a special economic relationship with the United States, considering Mexico's geographical situation and its capacity to supply oil to the U.S. market. For these reasons, the situation of the various Latin American countries is very different. Only the rules of the international financial system under which they negotiate are the same. Eventually, therefore, a change in those rules could be negotiated. Under the existing rules or under the new rules that might be adopted, the countries must still negotiate individually. Our unity lies in the fact that we are all part of the system under which we must negotiate debts which depend on the special situation of each country. When we propose to negotiate politically, we are in fact proposing that the rules governing the international financial system be changed.

[Veiga] How should Brazil act as long as the system is not changed?

[Setubal] Brazil should negotiate under the existing rules as long as they are not changed. This is the position of the Brazilian Government. Brazil continues to negotiate along orthodox lines, and at the same time it tries to have medium- and long-term discussions in line with the Cartagena Consensus proposal.

[Veiga] In his address to the nation, President Sarney said that Brazil intends to strengthen the Cartagena Consensus. Which measures are being adopted for that purpose?

[Setubal] The first practical measure to strengthen the Cartagena Consensus is to hold a technical meeting with the EEC countries, the second largest group of creditors after the United States. The meeting will analyze the existing difficulties in Latin America's financial situation and will see what can be done to modify them.

[Veiga] Would Brazil seek to lead the Cartagena Consensus so that a more advanced position can be adopted in the negotiations with the creditors?

[Setubal] Within the Cartagena Consensus and other international forums, Brazil tries to maintain a participatory attitude in the joint deliberations, respecting the sovereignty of each country.

[Veiga] What reflection does the Peruvian decision to cap the payment of its foreign debt at 10 percent of its exports have on Brazil and the Cartagena Consensus?

[Setubal] The reflections we have been able to notice in the international stage so far are that the Peruvian debt must be cautiously and carefully treated. We must, however, recall that the Peruvian debt with the international private financial system is relatively small, on the order of $4 million. The largest portion of Peru's debt is with the large international organizations, and the Peruvian Government has made a great effort to honor its commitments.

[Veiga] Does Brazil support the position of President Alan Garcia?

[Setubal] In the negotiation of the debt, Brazil has adopted guidelines that are applicable only to Brazil. Under the existing rules, it has defended the national interest in the best possible way,and it will continue to do so according to directives from President Jose Sarney.

[Veiga] Does that mean that Brazil would not adopt an attitude similar to that of the Peruvian Government?

[Setubal] The problem of the foreign debt negotiations and the form of negotiations fall under the jurisdiction of the Finance Ministry. Therefore, although I have given enough indications as to the position of Brazil in the Cartagena forum and its political vision of the international financial system, I do not see at this time any desire to change Brazil's line of negotiation.

[Veiga] What are the directives Itamaraty has given in the document it prepared for the resumption of relations with Cuba?

[Setubal] Itamaraty has analyzed the historical conditions, the political conditions of Brazil's relations with Cuba and, based on that analysis, it submitted its assessment to the nation's president. But Itamaraty should not disclose its position; it should only implement the decisions of the government, adopted by the president.

[Veiga] Do the allegations of national security made by the previous governments in order to sever relations still exist?

[Setubal] Itamaraty gave no opinion on whether reasons of national security exist or not. It evaluated the current situation.

[Veiga] Is it possible to first resume trade relations and later diplomatic relations?

[Setubal] There have been cases where this was done. I do not know whether Brazil will adopt this position.

[Veiga] When will relations be resumed?

[Setubal] Relations will be resumed...but the decision has not been made yet. [sentence as published] And even after it is made, Itamarcty will still have to prepare a procedure for its implementation. We cannot simply say let's resume relations and do it tomorrow. A whole procedure should follow the decision to resume relations, if it is made.

[Veiga] Could the resumption of relations with Cuba effect the economic negotiations with the developed countries?

[Setubal] Bankers are not concerned with the political relations of countries; they are concerned with their economic relations. Relations with Cuba will not influence the U.S. bankers one way or the other. It will be a decision of the Brazilian Government exclusively. I don't believe it will have any influence on the bankers.

[Veiga] Minister, has the emphasis of the Brazilian policy on the African countries changed?

[Setubal] It has. The serious situation of African countries, many of them in a situation of misery, prevent them from increasing trade relations with Brazil, including technological and other exchanges because of the serious internal difficulties they are experiencing. On the other hand, Brazil is also facing a serious internal crisis, and is thus prevented from increasing financial and economic assistance to those countries.

[Veiga] Has that change come as a result of directives from the new government?

[Setubal] Despite the Brazilian will and policy, Brazilian relations with African countries are not reaching the desired levels. Those who do not understand the problem may believe that Brazil is no longer interested in Africa. This is not so. What has happened is that Africa is not developing at the expected pace, and this is independent of the will of Africa or Brazil.

[Veiga] What about Brazil's hardened stance toward the racist regime of South Africa?

[Setubal] I believe that after the new Republic was installed, the problem with apartheid grew bigger, both on the internal front and in the tone of foreign policy. The president signed a decree banning trade and exchange with South Africa, implementing a decision that had already been made but not implemented.

[Veiga] Has there been any change regarding Central America? Why hasn't Brazil given more effective support to the Contadora Group, which defends peace in the region?

[Setubal] It is our view that we must encourage the Contadora Group to find a rapid solution to the problem in Central America, because the problem as it now stands represents a risk to negotiated solutions in the region.

[Veiga] But up until recently, all countries limited themselves to expressing support for the Contadora Group. Has the democracy that was restored in Brazil, Argentina, Peru, and Uruguay changed that lip service support?

[Setubal] I believe that there was a democratic factor in that decision. The installation of democratic regimes almost simultaneously in the southern cone countries promoted closer diplomatic efforts among those countries, and led to the realization that the risk to a negotiated solution between Nicaragua and its neighbors also represented a risk to the Latin American democatic systm, because of the tensions a nonnegotiated solution could create.

[Veiga] What kind of effective support could Brazil give to the Contadora Group?

[Setubal] That support will be in response to a request from the Contadora Group. Whenever the Contadora Group makes a request, we will try to cooperate with what they ask.

[Veiga] Since you have ruled out sending troops to the demilitarized zone between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, what form could that support have?

[Setubal] Look, troops for the Contadora Group could only be eventually sent to implement an agreement. Neither Brazil nor any other Latin American country would ever consider intervention.

[Veiga] It would not be intervention, but the installation of patrols in the neutral zone to be created in the area of greatest conflict.

[Setubal] Even that possibility could not be considered unless there were an agreement. So far there is no agreement, and so the first objective is to reach an agreement. This agreement is being negotiated by the Contadora Group on the basis on an act that has already been submitted for the consideration of the countries involved in that conflict. However, those countries have yet to approve it.

[Veiga] If invited, would Brazil consider participating in the Contadora Group?

[Setubal] Brazil would only accept invitations once the objectives, the scope, and the site are known. In principle, Brazil cannot accept anything. That is only theory.

BRIEFS

PTB DEPUTY DIES -- Sao Paulo -- Deputy Fernando Mauro Pires Rocha, of the Brazilian Labor Party (PTB), died here yesterday of stomach cancer. [Summary] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Aug 85 p 6 PY]

SOURCES ON ALLEGED VIOLATION OF PERUVIAN TERRITORY

PY161745 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Chilean diplomatic sources have termed reports by a Peruvian deputy on alleged violations of Peruvian sea and airspace as vague and incomplete.

During a speech before the Peruvian Congress, United Left [IU] Deputy Henry Rondinel Cornejo said Chilean airplanes and ships engaged in fishing activities have violated Peruvian sea and airspace. Nevertheless, Rondinel Cornejo failed to state the places and times these violations occurred or the registration numbers of the alleged offending ships. Therefore, diplomatic sources have termed the statements by the IU senator [as heard] as vague and incomplete.

The Lima newspapers have failed to report on the denunciation. In turn, the Peruvians have given full coverage to the speech by President Pinochet, who said Chile supports Peru's stand of suspending arms purchases. The statements by the Chilean head of state occupy a full page in the Lima newspapers. LA REPUBLICA, HOY, LA CRONICA, and the media linked to the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance, the party of Alan Garcia, have liberally disseminated the [word indistinct] of President Pinochet. In addition, Chilean Ambassador to Peru Juan Jose Fernandez has delivered a copy of President Pinochet's speech to Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner. The Peruvian foreign minister has voiced satisfaction with Pinochet's acceptance of Alan Garcia's proposal.

Foreign Ministry on Issue

PY162115 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Report from the Foreign Ministry by Jose Francisco Contreras]

[Excerpts] Pablo Valdes, spokesman of the Chilean Foreign Ministry, in referring to charges that Chilean planes had violated Peruvian airspace, said that it was an isolated case that by no means affects Chilean-Peruvian relations. Valdes was referring to reports by a Peruvian deputy that Chilean planes had entered 50 km inside Peruvian territory. According to Peruvian Deputy Henry Rondinel this was done to supply information to Chilean vessels fishing indiscriminately in Peruvian waters.

In this regard, Pablo Valdes said that these were charges made by a Peruvian deputy and disseminated by the media, and that the Foreign Ministry has no comment. He added that there are factory vessels anchored in the territorial waters of both countries and that sometimes they violate the territorial limit, but these are isolated cases that by no means affect the relations between the two countries.

BRITISH WARSHIPS MAKE TECHNICAL STOPOVER

PY170141 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Three vessels of the British Royal Navy are making a technical stopover at the Talcahuana Naval Base. The stopover, which starts today, will last until 20 August. The vessels visiting Talcahuano are the frigates Avenger and Danae, and the tanker Olwen.

OFFICIAL EXPLAINS VOTE IN UN ON PUERTO RICO

PY171813 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] At the United Nations, Chile has again stated its position regarding the independence of Puerto Rico. Foreign Ministry spokesman Pablo Valdez has explained the reasons for our country to maintain its principles in relation to the international community:

[Begin recording] The following are the reasons for the vote cast by Ambassador Pedro Daza: Despite the fact that the draft resolution voted on was written in general and moderate terms, my delegation pronounced itself against it for two reasons of principle. In the first place, this delegation believes the commission lacks jurisdiction to deal with the subject of Puerto Rico, and it does not consider it a good practice for us to indirectly extend the scope of the commission's competence. The second reason is that, as the permanent Chilean representative stated in the special meeting of the (Sedrera-Antunez) Commission, our basic work is to maintain the principles which were the origin of Resolution No 1,514, mainly the right of self-determination. [end recording]

Pablo Valdez said the plebiscite is what is really important, because it was held in the island of Puerto Rico, whose people voted against independence.

29 CARABINERO OFFICERS RETIRE, OTHERS PROMOTED

PY161549 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] A total of 29 Carabinero officers have gone into retirement. The official list has been released by the General Directorate of the Carabineros. [Words indistinct] four colonels [words indistinct] generals. Inspectors General Nestor (Barba) Valdez, Victor (Gerbales) Cordero, Carlos Donoso Perez, and Hugo Campos Vergara have gone into retirement. General Aquiles (Luz) Quesada also went into retirement. In addition, 17 colonels and 7 lieutenant colonels are also departing the ranks of the militarized police.

Generals Osvaldo Arriagada (Cabello), Victor Vargas Cabrera, and Oscar Torres Rodriguez have been promoted to inspectors general. Colonels Claudio Benegas Guzman, Mario (Cardenal) Silva, Osvaldo (Cals) Acuna, and Humberto Gonzalez (Ruiz) have been promoted to Carabinero generals.

Main Command Jobs Filled

PY171614 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] The promotion ceremony for the new Carabineros command echelon will take place at the Carabineros school on 19 August. Four colonels have been promoted to generals and three generals to inspectors general. As already reported, 29 officers have gone into retirement. The main posts of the Carabineros command have been filled by the following officers:

Director general: Rodolfo Stange Oelckers;
Deputy director general: Juan Alegria Valdez;
Inspector general: Rene Peri (Fagerstrom), minister of national resources;
Logistics director: Inspector General Hector Insulza Gonzalez;
Head of the Higher Advisory Council: Inspector General Osvaldo Arriagada (Pacino);
Order and security director: Inspector General Oscar Torres Rodriguez;
Welfare director: General Jorge (Veloso Macias);
Director for professional technical support: General Andres (Cals Acuna);
Chief of the 4th Inspection Zone, Concepcion: General Alejandro (Cabezas Zaide);

Chief of the 3d Inspection Zone, central Chile: General Victor Fontaine (Manrique);
Training director: General Claudio Calderon Moraga;
Chief of the 1st Inspection Zone, Antofagasta: General Jorge Portilla Carbajal;
Prevention director: General Pedro Casanueva Ulloa;
Chief of the 5th Inspection Zone, Valdivia: Claudio Benegas Guzman;
Chief of the Santiago Metropolitan Zone: General Mario Salazar Silva;
Chief of the 2d Inspection Zone, Valparaiso: General Waldo Prieto Acuna; and
Chief of the Carabineros cabinet in the Government Junta: General Teofilo Gonzalez Munoz.

PINOCHET SEEN HAVING TROUBLE WITH 'HARD-LINERS'

PY170022 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Aug 85 p 15

[By Flavio Tavares in Buenos Aires]

[Text] In Chile the unexpected has become reality: General Augusto Pinochet is now representing the "soft" line within the Armed Forces and he is openly fighting the repressive sectors that he created, commanded, and promoted. These sectors are escaping his control after 12 years of the military regime.

This apparently odd situation is not only explained by the autonomy of the repressive organizations in that the organizations have much more power than their creator. [sentence as published] After granting the authorization for the use of Easter Island for possible emergency landings of the space shuttle Discovery, Pinochet believed that he would have no more trouble with the U.S. Government so he began to implement his dream of remaining in power after 1988, the time limit that the Chilean regime set for itself to remain in power. In this respect, about a month ago he decided to seduce the politicians by beginning an internal "opening" process with the main intention of stopping the repressive apparatus from practicing intimidatory actions against members of the opposition outside the control of the government.

Outspoken criticism and condemnation is being heard in Pinochet's most intimate circles (times are changing) of the "criminals" and "psychopaths" who make up the Carabineros (the Chilean military police) and the special Army units that are charged with political repression. Pinochet personally asked that a special judge be named to investigate the situation of the Carabineros who in March 1985 kidnapped and slit the throats of three militants of the outlawed Communist Party. The National Intelligence Center (secret police) which is headed by two generals who have Pinochet's absolute confidence, provided the judge with all the details of the crime, including the evidence that two Carabineros officers had changed the flight plan of a police helicopter in order to create an alibi.

The outcome of the case is well known. The civilian judge ordered the arrest of the two officers and also the house arrest of another 12 officers, including the once powerful communications chief of police, Colonel Luis Fontaine. Pinochet, anticipating the final decision of the judicial branch, immediately removed from the military all those who were involved. The Carabineros declared themselves in a state of rebellion and General Cesar Mendoza, the commander of the service, (who has been a member of the military Junta since the 1973 coup) publicly supported those involved, and assumed responsibility for issuing the orders to his subordinates. Mendoza had just finished speaking to a Santiago television station when he received, over the telephone, the order that he had been dismissed from his post as commander of the Carabineros.

Meanwhile, and from that point on, other military sectors began to come out openly against Pinochet. Santiago Prefect General Osvaldo Hernandez declared his support for the dismissed Mendoza. For the past 15 days, the military, operational, and administrative command of the Chilean capital has not been obeying Pinochet's orders.

The "marches for life" that were carried out over the weekend of 10-11 August in Santiago again met the rigorous repressive apparatus in the streets. The groups were shot at, beaten, and hit with water cannons on the streets in the cold Chilean winter. Three demonstrators died. Within the context of the internal policy of the Armed Forces, it was a defeat for Pinochet and a victory for his old methods, now manipulated by the "hard-liners" that control the Carabineros and a part of the Army. If Chileans continue to take to the streets defying the police and military forces that are under the control of the "hard-liners," then it is possible the stability of the government will in fact be at risk for the first time since the military coup overthrew socialist President Salvador Allende in September 1973.

PEACEFUL CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE NOTED IN SOUTH

PY161350 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1724 GMT 15 Aug 85

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Text] Santiago, 15 Aug (EFE) -- The opposition's long-desired but never-achieved peaceful reaction through civil disobedience seems to have started to take shape in southern Chile. The proposal made in Punta Arenas for people not to pay their gas bills and the Puerto Montt physicians' decision to suspend their private practices seem to reveal this attitude. The first signs of a popular peaceful response have just appeared in Punta Arenas, 2,500 km south of Santiago, when a group of inhabitants suggested not paying their monthly bills to the gas distributor enterprise. This information from the southernmost city in the world arrived in Santiago just as a new gasoline price hike, effective today, was announced. At the same time, distributors said the price of gasoline on the international market went down rather than up. Several labor unions and social organizations in Punta Arenas have announced their support for the proposal made by the so-called Magallanic Front not to pay gas bills to protest the recent fuel price increase. The novelty lies in the fact that while the political leaders are not involved in the proposal, business and labor union sectors support it.

Meanwhile, local leaders who support the government have acknowledged the problem causing the conflict and they are publicly requesting that General Pinochet himself order that the fuel price be reduced. Lorenzo Giner de Rosa, chairman of the Punta Arenas neighborhood committees, said the groups are against the fuel price increase and he will urge the head of state to order that the price be readjusted.

Another good example of the peoples' spontaneous reaction, which began in Punta Arenas, is the announcement of a strike to be staged on Friday 16 August by physicians in Puerto Montt, 1,500 km south of Santiago. The physicians of this city decided to stage a strike, which will only affect their private practice, to draw the people's attention to the arrest and banishment of physician Pedro Castillo, president of the National Commission Against Torture.

These two events, one prompted by the economic situation and the other in defense of human rights, should cause Chilean authorities and opposition leaders to reflect. A month ago, some opposition leaders expressed the need to promote public campaigns against certain products sponsored by newscasts of the state-owned television channel, or against some Santiago newspapers. However, these initiatives never materialized. Referring to these events, one of the leaders of the opposition commented to EFE that while the leaders of the political opposition are engaged in carrying out evaluations, polemics, and ideological discussions, the people, seeking their own solutions, are staging acts of protest that are not organized by any political party. Only time will tell whether these almost spontaneous acts of protest alone will be effective or become important but, for the time being, no one denies that they could significantly affect Chile's political future.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES NICARAGUAN DIALOGUE PROPOSAL

PA151430 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0307 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Bogota, 14 Aug (EFE) -- Today representatives of the Southern Opposition Bloc (BOS) of Nicaragua presented to Colombian President Belisario Betancur their plan for a triple simultaneous dialogue to solve the conflict in that Central American country. Alvaro Jerez, Bayardo Lopez, and Fernando Chamorro, among others from the BOS, were received by Betancur and the Colombian Foreign and Deputy Foreign Ministers, Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and Guillermo Fernandez de Soto, respectively.

Jerez, who said that Betancur considered the proposal useful and timely, said that the plan will be submitted to the Contadora Group as an alternative solution for Nicaragua's crisis. The BOS representative said that the proposal for a triple simultaneous dialogue, which was presented in Panama on Monday, first consists of East-West (U.S.-USSR) talks on Nicaragua. Jerez also said: Second, the proposal consists of the factor represented by Nicaragua's neighbors. Third, the proposal consists of a dialogue between the opposition and the government which we consider vital. The representative of the opposition said: On this third point, we propose the formation of a commission made up of delegates of the BOS, the northern group [not further identified] and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE).

In addition, Lopez pointed out that Betancur, Ocampo, and Fernandez de Soto willingly received and listened to the proposal during the meeting held at Narino Palace in Bogota.

We were told that the proposal will be introduced during the next meeting of the Contadora countries and the support group, said Lopez. The meeting of the Contadora Group (Panamanian, Mexican, Venezuelan, and Colombian foreign ministers) and the support group (Argentine, Brazilian, Peruvian, and Uruguayan foreign ministers) will be held in Cartagena in Northern Colombia on 23 and 24 August.

After their visit with Betancur, the members of the Nicaraguan opposition will continue their tour of Contadora countries to present their proposal for a triple simultaneous dialogue that seeks to end the conflict in Nicaragua and Central America.

BETANCUR WILLING TO CONTINUE TALKS WITH GUERRILLAS

PA161552 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Aug 85 pp 1, 9

[By Hector Gonzalez]

[Excerpts] Tolemaida, Tolima 9 Aug -- President Betancur said today that he is willing to continue talks with the country's rebel groups to normalize the situation in Colombia in the context of the pacification process that he initiated. During a visit to the Tolemaida military base, Betancur issued a call to those who believe they are advancing creative and constructive initiatives outside the law. He stressed that ranking government leaders "will keep their arms open to them so they may return to the legal order." In a sonorous and vehement tone President Betancur asked the rebels to return to the legal order and begin an electoral process under the Constitution, advising them that this will assure them of the support of the government and the military forces.

The president arrived at Tolemaida accompanied by Government Minister Jaime Castro Castro; General Manuel Guerrero Paz, chief of the Joint General Staff; Maria Eugenia Rojas de Moreno, manager of the Institute of Territorial Credit; Mariano Ospina Hernandez, manager of the Agrarian Credit Institution; and Mario Calderon Rivera, manager of the Central Mortgage Bank.

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS GUERRILLAS IGNORE PEACE EFFORT

PA182351 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2305 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Bogota, 18 Aug (EFE) -- The Colombian defense minister, General Miguel Vega Uribe, today affirmed that the guerrillas have failed to comply with the peace agreements signed with the government in 1984, and commended resolute action and presence of the Armed Forces in the country. There are some organizations and persons who did not sign the agreements and, consequently, continue their criminal activities, and others who, having signed them, have failed to comply with or respect them, Vega said in a report on his ministry's activities to be submitted to Congress next week.

Likewise, he noted that the main effort of the Defense Ministry during the administration of President Belisario Betancur, which began in August 1982, has been to achieve peace, the preferential objective for the country.

The general affirmed that in the past 12 months there have been 598 killed in clashes between the Army and rebel groups, although he did not indicate the number of policemen, soldiers, and officers killed in action. He also supplied the following figures on the campaign against drug trafficking during the same period of military operations: the arrest of over 5,000 persons; the confiscation of 1,600 weapons, 255 radios, 600 vehicles, 75 planes, and 34 boats; and the destruction of 65 tons of cocaine, 46 laboratories, and thousands of coca and marijuana bushes.

U.S. ENGINEER KIDNAPPED BY ALLEGED M-19 REBELS

PA170351 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0042 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Excerpt] Bogota, 16 Aug (EFE) -- Mike Stewart, a U.S. mining engineer, was kidnapped in Bogota by a guerrilla command unit which identified itself as belonging to the 19 April Movement, M-19, the police reported. Stewart, 38 years old, was driving his car on the north side of Bogota, when he was intercepted by six armed men, who identified themselves as members of the M-19 and took him to an undisclosed location. Stewart's chauffeur and bodyguard Jose Cayetano Neira Espinosa, a retired Army sergeant, said that two of the six unidentified men got into Stewart's car, while the other four followed them at a reasonable distance in another car. A few streets later, the kidnappers released Neira Espinosa and then continued on to an undisclosed location with Stewart, who works for the Houston Petroleum Company, which is exploring and also exploiting some oil fields in Huila Department in the southern part of Colombia. After learning of the kidnapping, the police found the guerrillas' vehicle abandoned on a street on the north side of Bogota and they immediately began a gigantic operation to try to rescue the U.S. citizen.

ARMY BRIGADE ARRESTS ELN MEMBERS, SEIZES WEAPONS

PA180417 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Neiva -- The military authorities have arrested five National Liberation Army [ELN] members during the last few hours, thus dealing another harsh blow to the organization. A spokesman for the 9th Brigade said that Angel Mendez Concha; Gerardo Masi Calderon; Hernando Zuniga Vargas, alias Muchet; Alejandro Ferol Ferol, alias Ricardo; and Hector Diaz Urbina were arrested during a special operation in Pitalito Municipality. Handguns, rifles, propaganda on the ELN, and quartermaster equipment [equipo de intendencia] were seized. It should be noted that on Thursday, four other ELN insurgents, including three women, were arrested and placed under the jurisdiction of the military courts.

GARCIA OBTAINS UNION, CAMPESINOS LEADERS' SUPPORT

PY190208 Paris AFP in Spanish 0205 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Lima, 17 Aug (AFP) -- President Alan Garcia today obtained the support of the union federations for his economic policy and he announced that he will adopt measures that will favor the campesinos and give employment to the unemployed. During a 6-hour meeting with leaders of union and campesinos federations at Government House, the president explained the problems that the country is facing, including the foreign debt. Garcia also stressed that it is necessary to govern the economy and put an end to the disorder that the previous government left behind. He warned that he had asked the industrialists not to escalate prices, but he also asked the workers not to make centralized demands that would only favor the unionized workers of the cities. He also announced the creation of an agricultural fund to provide the campesinos with loans and low-priced fertilizers.

Valentin Paccho, secretary general of the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP), which leans toward communism and is the country's largest labor confederation, stated that the confederation supports the measures that have been adopted by the president.

Julio Cruzado, of the Confederation of Peruvian Workers [CPT], which supports the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance], Victor Sanches, of the National Confederation of Workers, which leans toward the Christian Socialists, and Jose Bernaola, of the Federation of Workers of the Peruvian Revolution (CTRP), which has independent leftist leanings, all made similar statements.

MILITARY MINISTERS SUPPORT BUDGET CUTS

PY171314 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 3 Aug 85 p 4

[Excerpt] Commenting on the government's decision to reduce the number of Mirage aircraft to be purchased for the Peruvian Air Force (FAP), Aeronautics Minister Jose Guerra Lorenzetti has said the reduction will in no way jeopardize the country's sovereignty.

"We, the FAP members, are aware of the economic situation the country is going through. We will take the necessary measures and follow a policy of austerity," he said.

As for notifying the French Government of the Peruvian Government's decision, the minister said "the presidents will discuss the issue." He added that no announcement has yet been made on the number of Mirage aircraft to be purchased, and hinted that it will depend on the availability of funds.

Navy Minister Julio Pacheco Concha has asked all Peruvians to unite and support the measures the new government has decreed to reactivate the economy. "Only in this way will we defeat inflation," he said. He stressed that the government is giving an example of austerity by reducing its military spending to allocate those funds "to the most needy sectors." Pacheco Concha siad: "All Peruvians, civilians and military, should welcome this effort."

War Minister Jorge Flores Torres said that the measures the government has taken are necessary because they will favor the poorer sectors. He added, "We need this type of policy to improve our balance of trade and strengthen our currency."

MRTA SEIZES RADIO STATIONS, PROPOSES TRUCE

MRTA Leaders Announce Proposals

PY171434 Lima Televisora Lima in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] In a clandestine press conference, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] has announced that it has decided to suspend its military actions against the new government and the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA], as long as the people are not attacked. Three MRTA national leaders made this announcement which is looked upon as a truce proposal by the terrorist group to Alan Garcia's government. They said, however, that the MRTA will continue fighting the imperialist companies -- those who enrich themselves with the hunger of the people -- and repressive forces when they attack the people's protest demonstrations.

Here are the first two paragraphs of the articles written by the daily LA REPUBLICA, which will be published tomorrow, and here are the photographs accompanying the LA REPUBLICA report on the press conference held today by MRTA national leaders. They called a group of newsmen for the press conference. And we will listen to the basic proposal made by the terrorist organization:

[Begin recording] [Male speaker] Our movement decides:

[Female speaker] 1. The present government of Dr Alan Garcia is the result of a majority vote in the elections. Respecting this majority, the MRTA will no longer carry out military actions against the APRA and the new government, as long as the latter does not attack the people.

[Male speaker] 2. The MRTA maintains its political and military independence. It will continue as before, actively participating in the defense of the [word indistinct] measures for the political claims of the masses.

[Female speaker] 3. The people have voted for a change, not for a continuation of the system, that is, for the nonpayment of the foreign debt; for the freezing of gasoline and staple prices; for a substantial wage and salary increase; and for the definitive solution to their needs for food, work, health, education, culture, and housing. The people did not vote for more privileges for [words indistinct], much less for the increase of the (?offensive) pressure that the imperialist companies are putting on our [words indistinct] companies. The MRTA [words indistinct] (?has decided) to attack this basic problem, which is the root of our misfortunes.

[Male speaker] 4. The MRTA will continue to fight the imperialist companies, which enrich themselves with the hunger of the people, and repressive forces when they attack the people's protest demonstrations. We will confront all (?those who are) against the interests and aspirations of the working masses. We will be unyielding against the exploiters and assassins of the people. As long as there is no justice, there can be no peace. [end recording]

More on Radio Station Seizures

PY170149 Paris AFP in Spanish 0123 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Lima, 16 Aug (AFP) -- Police sources have reported that guerrillas of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) tonight seized five radio stations in Lima and, after subduing the personnel, broadcast subversive announcements.

The group, which hours before had announced its decision to lay down its arms, proclaimed in the messages that it will maintain a watchful position regarding the new social democratic government of President Alan Garcia, who has promised a revolutionary and democratic administration in order to resolve this nation's serious problems.

The radio stations that were taken over are: Radios El Sol, Agricultura, Comas, 1160, and Oriente, which are located in different sectors of this capital that has approximately 6 million inhabitants.

Gabriel Miro Quesada, the manager of Radio El Sol, said that approximately 10 armed subversives, who identified themselves as MRTA militants, took over the station just after 2300 GMT. There were about 14 of us in the building. We were shut up in the bathroom, and the subversives painted slogans on the walls and then disseminated a revolutionary recording until 1820 (2320 GMT), then they fled, he added.

The police have reported that they arrested a suspect in the neighborhood of Radio El Sol and that the seizures of the other stations were similar.

SHINING PATH ATTACKS SAILORS; 3 DEAD, 8 WOUNDED

Woman Leads Bus Stop Shooting

PY171458 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 2350 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] A woman led the attack on the Navy sailors in Villa Maria del Triunfo. A Shining Path commando extermination group apparently committed the treacherous crime agaisnt two NCO's and civilian employees of the Navy, which left eight wounded in Villa Maria. The Antiterrorist Directorate of the Peruvian Investigative Police believes the subversives were led by (Nelly Chavez Diaz), who was released by the 18th Trial Court 2 weeks ago, despite a voluminous police record against her.

It was officially reported that the following persons were killed in the attack: the NCO's (Tomas Beaso Ansuero) and (Virgilio Santos Santos) and the civilian worker (Jose Campos). The following Navy NCO's were wounded: (Juan Loyon Espejo), (Manuel Betancon Barra), (Rafael Saenz Moncada), (Jaime Zavala Cabello), (Elias Melgarejo Tambur), (Ernesto Silvestre Salvador), (Jose Heredia), and (Segundo Rojas Rojas). All of them have been hospitalized at the Navy health center.

Government Tightens Security

PY172045 Paris AFP in Spanish 1744 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Excerpts] Lima, 17 Aug (AFP) -- Today, for the first time, Army officers could be seen guarding the Government Palace in Lima. This action is in response to the recent Maoist Shining Path terrorist group that has started attacking military objectives in this capital.

A column of five alleged members of the Shining Path, headed by a woman, yesterday, Friday, 16 August, machine-gunned some 60 sailors who were standing in a line waiting for a bus on the Devil's Curve in the Nueva Esperanza shantytown. As a result, three sailors were killed and eight wounded.

The cold-blooded attack, the second perpetrated during the 19 days of the new government, has prompted the tightening of security measures in strategic premises and especially at the Government Palace occupied by young President Alan Garcia. Moreover, the main plaza of this capital was cordoned off by members of the police forces and access to pedestrians and vehicles was prohibited.

Army officers, armed with machine guns, are strategically posted on the roof and garden of the Government Palace and the public has been prohibited from getting near the palace rails where the presidential guard usually performs the change of guard.

The Antiterrorist Directorate (Dircote), has arrested some 50 suspects as a result of a search operation directed at finding those responsible for the attack. The Dircote has stated that there is no doubt that the attack was perpetrated by members of the Shining Path.

POLICE DISCLOSE INFORMATION ON DRUG RAID

PY180029 Paris AFP in Spanish 1912 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Lima, 17 Aug (AFP) -- Today in Lima, the police disclosed that according to a preliminary estimate, the value of the drug, aircraft, communications equipment, arms, and other objects siezed in Callaru, Caballococha, and Loreto, on the border with Colombia, amounts to some $500 million.

General Leonel Ramirez, chief of the anti-drug police force of Iquitos, capital of the Amazon Loreto Department, stated that the Colombian and Peruvian police forces acted jointly in the operations against drug traffickers in the mentioned zone. He pointed out that as a consequence of the struggle against the members of the cocaine Mafias, started 1 year ago by Colombian President Belisario Betancur, many Colombian traffickers fled to Peru. He also confirmed that in the operation carried out in Callaru, one unidentified Colombian citizen, who was wounded, was arrested. He also said that some 60 people of various nationalities, that lived in the Callaru complex, managed to flee to the jungle.

Aircraft maintenance shops, spare parts warehouses, an ultramodern laboratory with all the necessary equipment and some 3,000 kg of pure cocaine, valued at $72,000 dollars per kilo, were found in underground locations in the drug traffickers' empire. According to a member of the police forces, the hangar and the service station specially equipped to refuel aircraft that transported 1,800 kg of cocaine to the United States via Colombia, are spectacular, something that not even the Peruvian Air Force has. The Cessna aircraft are fitted with double navigation and performance equipment so that if one fails the other will start to operate automatically. A moor on the Tigre River was also found, presumably used to transport the raw material.

It was also stated that members of the civilian guard and a group of Sinchi members, antiterrorist forces, were carrying out dragnet operations in the areas surrounding the complex in order to capture the traffickers at large.

Moreover, Interior Minister Abel Salinas said that the blow given the Mafia in Callaru is the beginning of an offensive that will not slaken in Peru. Yesterday, Salinas held several meetings with police officers. These meetings were also attended by representatives of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA] in order to analyze other actions against drug trafficking in the jungle and other areas of the country, it was stated.

FOREIGN SECRETARY ON CONTADORA, DRUG TRAFFIC

FL170236 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2250 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, Mexico's foreign relations secretary, has said the support given to the Contadora Group by Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Peru will be important in the peaceful negotiations with the Central American countries in conflict.

Upon announcing that next Friday discussions will be held in Cartagena, Colombia between the Contadora and the four new Latin American countries, the official said that group is trying to promote peaceful negotiations in the Central American region. The minister stressed that group makes the Contadora activity legitimate and strengthens the peace efforts completed up to the present. Sepulveda Amor said from the discussions with the Contadora ministers and the representatives of the four countries emerged mechanisms and practices to strenghten and assist the diplomatic pacifist labor.

In reference to the explosion that occurred this week in the Mexican Embassy in Guatemala, Sepulveda Amor considered it irresponsible to find blame for the unfortunate act before the investigation has been concluded. When asked about the possible causes of this affair, the minister said the act could be an accident or an act of a demented terrorist that was trying to cause material and human damage, which resulted in the death of two Guatemalan workers. Sepulveda Amor said the Mexican Ambassador to Guatemala Abraham Talavera will call for an investigation of the deed and will attempt to avoid the repetition of these acts.

On another matter, Sepulveda Amor commented on the concerted measures against drugs trafficking being practiced internationally and said that at the governmental level, the investigations and prosecution of that type of crime increases by cooperating with the affected countries.

In reference to the discussions he had with U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, the Mexican minister said Meese expressed his satisfaction on Mexico's efforts to combat drug trafficking by its investigative work and by prosecuting the offenders. Nevertheless, he said it was indispensable to intervene on the other end of the chain in the sale of narcotics to totally attack the problem. Sepulveda Amor told Meese of the Mexican Government's interest in the investigations and prosecutions of crimes committed against Mexican citizens in that country.

COSTA RICAN MINISTER ARRIVES, VIEWS RELATIONS

FL161605 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2320 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Mexico City, 15 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Relations between Mexico and Costa Rica are excellent despite a print media war in progress which could affect our friendship, Armando Vargas Araya, Costa Rican Presidency Information Minister, has said. The Costa Rican spokesman cited some examples of cooperative projects the two governments have undergone, such as the San Jose Accord and the agreements reached within the SELA.

Upon his arrival in Mexico City, where he will meet with high-level Mexican officials and discuss the Latin American and Caribbean Radio Broadcast Union, Vargas Araya asserted that the aforementioned differences have been considered a print media problem in which the Costa Rican and Mexican press have to understand that it is a result of the countries' efforts to achieve political and social stability in Central America.

He said that in essence, Mexico and Costa Rica agree in many points of view on regional and international problems and that both are working very hard to achieve long lasting peace. On this subject, he underscored the importance the Mexican Government has had in Central America, where it is considered as playing a key role in the peace efforts.

Referring to the Latin American and Caribbean Radio Broadcasting Union, which was founded last 24 July by 15 Latin American countries to strengthen the identity of Latin Americans through radio and television, the Costa Rican presidency spokesman mentioned that one of the main objectives of his visit is to persuade Mexican television to join this service so that its programming can be broadcasted throughout all countries in the continent.

PEMEX CONFIRMS JAPAN'S OIL PURCHASE INCREASE

FL171504 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- PEMEX Director Mario Ramon Beteta said today at a press conference that Japan will increase its purchases of Mexican crude oil, and that Japanese bankers have expressed interest in buying $40 million of PEMEX bonds. This information stemmed from the working visit the PEMEX director made to Japan recently.

Beteta said Japan buys 160,000 barrels of crude daily from PEMEX and it is expected this figure will increase to [words indistinct]. Japan is one of Mexico's biggest clients, he explained. During Beteta's trip to Japan, negotiations were begun on the sale to Japan of petroleum products including gas instead of only crude oil.

The PEMEX director also spoke of Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado's coming trip to Japan, saying it is of great importance to the political rapprochement between Japan and Mexico and to trade between the two countries.

The PEMEX director said the oil export platform continues to be 15 million barrels daily, that 1.34 million barrels daily were exported during the first half of 1985 because of marketing problems. He also said the reduction of the PEMEX debt continues and that, by late 1985, the debt should be only $15.5 billion instead of the $20 billion owed 3 years ago.

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT CUTS OFFICES TO REDUCE BUDGET

FL161814 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1551 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Foreign Relations has reported that it is going to eliminate the Under Secretariat of Economic Affairs and three of its directorates. The principal aim of the measure is to reduce the budget without affecting the interests of staff employees and the members of the Mexican Foreign Service.

The Under Secretariat of Economic Affairs was headed by Jorge Eduardo Navarrete; the functions of the three general directorates that have been eliminated will be reassigned to other sections of the Foreign Relations Secretariat. The document issued yesterday says the personnel affected will be reassigned to different sections of the Foreign Relations Secretariat also.

ARDITO BARLETTA, PRESS COMMENT ON COUP RUMORS

EXTRA: Coup d'Etat 'in Sight'

PA162018 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 16 Aug 85

[From the "Mirror of the Times" column by Jose Manuel Faundes: "Coup d'Etat in Sight"]

[Text] Dr Arnulfo Arias has predicted it for some time. He says that "this government is going to fall." Later, in other statements, he has emphatically repeated it with a smile. Throughout the country there are comments and claims that the regime, which Aquilino Boyd called ILLEGITIMATE [preceding word published in boldface], is about to collapse. Telephone calls from the country's interior are received constantly on the issue with such a tone of certainty that fellow countrymen on the other side of the Bridge of the Americas are convinced the regime is doomed.

Some considerations of our thesis are evidenced by the various strikes and work stoppages in the various government agencies, both in the central government and autonomous entities. Public employees have lost respect for the "chief executive" and in their demands they insist on mentioning his origins: born of a scandalous, monstrous fraud that inhibits Mr Ardito Barletta from denying the charges because he is aware that his rise to power is the result of the clumsy, wretched maneuvers directed and carried out by military and civilian elements in a conspiracy that exceeds all other criminal acts committed in our Spanish America as far as vote counting is concerned.

Since 12 August -- when the men in uniform made a boastful, public appearance before the Panamanian people displaying their war equipment fit for a world conflagration at the Cimarron base where the supreme chief of the guardsmen referred to the irregular situation that has been affecting the nation for almost 17 years when speaking of a "lack of control" in the country and the serious problems that have no solution even saying, in the presence of Mr Ardito Barletta, that "the situation in the country is anarchic" -- there has been an insistent rumor of the fall of the regime including its principal figure accompanied by vice presidents.

The comments on this issue have gained intensity. It is considered a certainty that a change in government will be produced through a coup d'etat, the only way to overthrow it. It is also said that if the coup takes place, it will demand the participation of all of the country's active forces for the establishment of the government that will replace the former to make sure that only citizens in the Republic of unquestionable honesty and prestige are chosen to begin the regeneration of the nation, lead it safely into port, and endow it with a future and firmness capable of erasing the image created by its predecessors since October 1968.

The reason for a coup d'etat stems from the inability shown by Mr Ardito Barletta to properly conduct the public administration and handle the many problems he has had to face.

President Rejects 'Divisionism'

PA172239 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] This morning, President Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta initiated a working tour through the Cocle, Los Santos, and Herrera Provinces. Our special journalist Cielo Conte reports from the region:

[Begin recording] This morning, President Ardito Barletta inaugurated a new salt processing plant worth more than $1.5 million. The plant will require more than 50 workers. Immediately afterward, the president went to Sabanagrande, where he and his wife Maria Consuelo de Ardito Barletta were duly entertained. The president said that it will not be before 31 August 1989 that he will hand over his mandate to the president to be elected by the Panamanian people in accordance with the Constitution. He added that the judgment of an irresponsible minority that describes itself as opposition cannot determine the future of our modern and progressive democracy. He said that he agreed to be presidential condidate because of this democracy.

He also said that the government has been marked by its willingness for a democratic dialogue and understanding, as well as an agreement to achieve -- at the lowest possible social cost -- solutions to the serious problems it inherited. He added: We must confront our situation with or without a letter of intent, with or without the World Bank. Our objective is to find permanent solutions. For this, it is necessary for all of us to act with the homeland in our minds, reconciling our personal interests with those of the nation because each citizen can only progress by contributing to all our efforts toward the nation's progress.

Regarding the national situation, he said that, unfortunately, there have been those who -- fancifully and with great political immaturity -- think that a new government would be tantamount to magically solving the problems. He also added: They have devoted themselves to creating divisionism, uselessly trying to whimsically and malignantly interpret the statements of Fort Cimarron [reference to General Manuel Antonio Noriega's 12 August speech]. These statements support peace, stability, and democracy in our country. The president added: Those who have tried to sow division between civilians and the military have forgotten that we civilians and the military form a coordinated, single entity bound by a single purpose.

The president mentioned General Omar Torrijos, whom he considered his teacher in the study of the Panamanian society. He said: Torrijos warned us to be vaccinated against that virus released by our enemies. [end recording]

FURTHER REACTION TO NORIEGA COMMENTS, STANCE

PDC Leader Criticizes Remarks

PA182348 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Aug 85 p 16 A

[By Franklin Bosquez D'Giovanni]

[Text] In a clear reference to the public relations and promotion campaign prepared by a U.S. firm for the commander in chief of the Defense Forces of Panama (FDP), the opposition legislator, Guillermo A. Cochez, Jr, pointed out that the actions started by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, besides eroding the national economy, "are intended to undermine whatever is left of our democracy."

Thus, the leader of the parliamentary bloc of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) expressed his opinion to LA PRENSA concerning the "Proposal to Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, Commander in Chief of the Defense Forces of Panama," presented by the U.S. firm "Delaney-PR Associates International."

According to the contents of the document, this firm intends to present Gen Noriega as "the protector of the Panamanians and (of) their civil freedoms"; as a man who favors "free democratic elections," for which he would be depicted as an "international statesman" with an image similar to those of Dwight Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, and Charles de Gaulle.

Cochez indicated that it is logical to think that Gen Noriega's recent activities responded to a public relations program prepared for the single purpose of projecting his image as "the great benefactor of the Panamanians" and as "the great Central American military leader."

The opposition's parliamentarian affirmed that there are specific actions that show the existence of a plan to make of Manuel Antonio Noriega a sort of maximum leader of a people who constantly show their desire for a true democracy — not a cosmetic one -- where the men in uniform should occupy the place that corresponds to them in every civilian democracy.

Those actions, Cochez noted, include: the costly and repeated trips to the Middle East and "God knows what other countries"; the sabotage of the planned meeting of the military leaders of Honduras and Nicaragua with the announcement of a request for Panamanian mediation, which apparently never existed; the unconstitutional statements often made in Costa Rica; the new clothing being used; and the permanent disregard for the military subordination to the civilians that should exist.

Paper Assails 'Arrogance'

PA180425 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Aug 85 p 1 A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] General Noriega has made insubordination to the civilain power one of his favorite exercises. With unusual insolence he alternates with President Ardito Barletta in public acts. What makes his participation more repugnant is that in some of these acts he is the host and he takes advantage of the occasion to criticize President Ardito Barletta's government policy in the most harsh and disrespectful manner, as well as criticizing him personally. In this vicious practice, he has gone far beyond what General Paredes ever dared to do against the pale occupants of the presidency during his brief mandate. Soon after Ardito Barletta took office, Noriega told him that the length of his term was not necessarily what the Constitution established. You are on a 365-day trial period, Noriega said. In other words, just like a common employee controlled by his boss.

On a more recent occasion, Noriega referred to the duration of the presidential term in an euphemistic manner, indicating that the government's power increases according to what "man and circumstances" decide, expressing once more a total disregard for the constitutional process. With the military trying to get its own way, the figure of the president of the Panamanians is reduced to impotency and silence, as the Costa Rican newspaper LA NACION very well says in an accurate editorial note.

Concerning the recent ceremony held at Fort Cimarron, as on previous occasions, there is no excuse to forget that everything that is being harshly criticized is the exclusive result of Tinajita [military garrison where Ardito Barletta was nominated presidential candidate], which, in other words is the doing of Gen Noriega himself. His great responsibility for the situation should induce him to act with prudence as a way of paying for all the evils he is causing for our people with his arrogance.

FDP OFFERS TO JOIN CENTRAL AMERICAN 'PEACE FORCE'

PA170014 Panama City QUIUBO GRAFICO in Spanish 16-23 Aug 85 p 1

[Text] A Central American diplomatic source who requested that his name be withheld for security reasons told QUIUBO GRAFICO that "Panamanian troops could be sent to Costa Rica at any moment."

The source said: "An unofficial offer has been made to the Costa Rican Government, whereby the Panamanian Defense Forces [FDP] would send a large armed contingent to Costa Rica if -- with the worsening of the conflict between Costa Rica and Nicaragua -- the feared Sandinist invasion took place."

Although the source did not say whether the offer came from the central government or the FDP, he said: "The entire government knows about the offer," pointing out that the offer could have been made in a subtle manner by FDP Commander General Noriega himself, when upon arriving in Nicaragua he said that "Panama is willing to contribute through Contadora and through every military effort" to maintain peace in the region.

The diplomat concluded his report to QUIUBO GRAFICO by stating that the armed contingent could include approximately 2,000 troops supported by tanks, helicopters, and armored vessels, which would be stationed "as a peace force" in the border region between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. He added that other Latin American countries may join this operation, but that so far Brazil, Colombia, and El Salvador have officially declined.

GOVERNMENT MINISTRY WORKERS CONTINUE STRIKE

PA161559 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Aug 85 p 1

[By Fernando Kant]

[Text] Government and Justice Ministry workers who yesterday decided to continue their strike since the talks they have been holding with Acting Minister Oscar Ucros to negotiate their list of demands were broken off, have charged that their wages have been withheld in reprisal.

The members of the Government and Justice Ministry Employees Association, [Asemingo], who were negotiating their 13-point demand, expressed their anger when they learned of the measure that has been adopted as a reprisal against them.

According to Asemigo negotiators, the most controversial point in their demands is the reinstatement of the secretary general and finance secretary to their former positions, and the lifting of the 3-day suspension without wages issued against Joaquin Calderon, who is the secretary general of the employees association.

Calderon told LA PRENSA that the negotiations had advanced, but that they decided to break them off in view of the "intransigent attitude" of Deputy Minister Ucros who has maintained his transfer order and that of Finance Secretary Natalia de Pineda. Calderon added that these transfers without consultations are the result of an orchestrated campaign whose origin he did not indicate. He said that the clearest example of this is the transfer of one of the members of the Association's Board of Directors who works in the Post Office Directorate.

The Asemigo members also said that while employees of the Government and Justice Ministry were being fired, four advisers were recently appointed with a salaries of $2,500 each plus expense accounts.

The strike by Asemigo began on Monday afternoon and is supported by the National Federation of Association of Public Employees of the Metropolital Division of Sanitation, and the Association of Employees of the Finance and Treasury Ministry.

COSTA RICA

MONGE REASSERTS REFUSAL TO MEET WITH NICARAGUA

PA170352 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2136 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] San Jose, 16 Aug (DPA) -- President Luis Alberto Monge has said definitely that there will be no dialogue between Costa Rica and Nicaragua because the Nicaraguan Government has refused to apologize and to give explanations to Costa Rica. The apologies and explanations to which Monge refers deal with the following:

A. The events at Las Crucitas on 31 May, when two Costa Rican civil guardsmen died. Costa Rica blames the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] for this incident.

B. The events of 3 June at Las Crucitas, when the EPS attacked the Costa Rican guardsmen who were trying to recover the body of one of the slain civil guardsmen.

C. The events of 26 July at Barra del Colorado, when, according to Costa Rica, three Sandinist Air Force planes entered Costa Rica's airspace and dropped bombs.

The Costa Rican president added that Nicaragua has not stopped its slander campaign against Costa Rica and just yesterday government officials made statements that Costa Rica receives orders from the United States, which is another insult to Costa Rica. As long as there are no apologies or explanations from Nicaragua, there will be no meeting between Costa Rican and Nicaraguan officials, Monge asserted.

EL SALVADOR

ARMY STEPS UP CAMPAIGNS; STATE OF SIEGE EXTENDED

PA170228 Paris AFP in Spanish 1743 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Aug (AFP) -- The Salvadoran Army today stepped up its counterinsurgency operations in northern and central El Salvador in a new attempt to control the rebel forces, which have killed 7 and wounded 14 soldiers in the past few days.

Military spokesman reported that the Army sent troops to Cabanas, San Vicente, and La Paz Departments in the central region, and to Guazapa Hill and Chalatenango Department in the north. Apparently, there is fear among military circles that the guerrillas will fulfill their threat to join armed fronts and launch a military offensive, as announced this week by Commander Leonel Gonzalez of the People's Liberation Forces.

The strongest blow dealt by the guerrillas in the past few days was an ambush on the San Vicente-Tecoluca Highway, some 70 km east of this capital, in which 11 soldiers were wounded. In Zacateluca, in the country's southeast, another soldier died last night in an ambush and two soldiers were reported killed in combat in San Vicente, in the central region.

Meanwhile, in San Salvador, official sources reported "an increase in selective violence," as a result of which an officer of the traffic police was killed last night and the post office director was seriously wounded.

In San Miguel, the country's third largest city, 138 km east of San Salvador, the body of soldier Rene Giron was identified, while in Santa Ana, the largest city in western El Salvador, the death of a sergeant of the 2d Infantry Brigade was reported.

Amid this worsening violence, the Legislative Assembly extended the state of siege for an additional 30 days. The state of siege has been in effect since 1980 and suspends constitutional guarantees on freedom of expression, movement, and domicile.

The Salvadoran unions have criticized the Duarte administration for prolonging the state of siege, stressing that its main objective is to give validity to military operations against political prisoners and to prevent strikes and popular demonstrations.

The Army can also continue searches and indiscriminate arrests under the state of siege.

FMLN COMMAND LETTER ADDRESSES U.S. CONGRESS

PA172119 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Letter from the FMLN General Command to the U.S. Congress signed in Morazan in July]

[Summary] "Meddling by the Reagan administration in El Salvador's internal affairs has reached levels of direct intevention in the armed conflict, and the involvement of U.S. military and economic means in the conflict is reaching levels not previously declared by the Reagan administration." The involvement includes drafting counter-insurgency plans, training troops, supplying weapons, the presence of a large number of military advisers, and the involvement of advisers in military operations.

The intervention has resulted in 50,000 deaths, 1 million refugees, the displacement of one-fifth of the population, and a substantial destruction of the country's resources. "To keep up the intervention, President Reagan has misrepresented the situation and depicted a false image of the Napoleon Duarte administration to the U.S. Congress and people." Duarte's agrarian policy has led to the bankruptcy and indebtedness of the peasants. "The basic structure of economic power has been left intact and his economic policy has favored the ruling classes." "Corruption among Army and government officials is uncontrollable." There are hundreds of political prisoners and missing people, and politicians have been killed with impunity.

The Duarte administration lacks popular support and manifestations of discontent are growing. "The sectors and popular organizations that were supposed to be the social basis of Duarte's programs are now openly opposed to his government." Duarte is authorizing bombings of civilians daily and the war will continue as long as this situation continues.

Army casualties are growing daily. "The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador knows well that the casualty figures noted by General Vides Casanova in his report to the Legislative Assembly in July 1985 are false and distorted." The air war against us is ineffectual and "we are prepared to wage a long war of attrition, even if there is an intervention by foreign troops."

"President Reagan has repeatedly lied and tried to include the matter of U.S. intervention in El Salvador within the East-West conflict." This is preposterous. It is impossible geographically to provide sustenance to the FMLN from abroad.

"The United States has taken control of both oceans -- the Pacific and Atlantic." It has bases for logistical support from abroad. "Our forces and resources are national in origin and are based on popular support."

The conflict has arisen from deep inequities, social injustices, and violations of the freedom and human rights of Salvadorans. "Duarte seeks to use dialogue as a political component and military plan designed by the U.S. advisers and not as a real option for a negotiated political solution to the conflict." He thinks he can use the dialogue to obtain continued U.S. economic and military support to win the war militarily.

"The dialogue has been broken off by Duarte." Clearly, two courses of action are open: Either there is an end to U.S. intervention and we take the path of a negotiated solution, or the war will become regionalized and youths from other countries will be dragged into it "with no realistic or objective prospects of military victory for the U.S. interventionists."

"You and we know that in a war like this, victory is not achieved through military superiority, but on the basis of popular support," and U.S. intervention would enhance support for our forces. "To justify its warmongering in El Salvador before the public, the Reagan administration is pushing an alleged third option, with no real basis, to obtain our surrender on the basis of threats, pressure, and further intervention." We will never surrender.

"We tell you, members of the U.S. Congress and the American people at large, that we are united by historical and geographical bonds that may contribute to our progress as brothers on the basis of cooperation and mutual respect." "We want to strengthen these ties, but we cannot waive our right to legitimate defense in view of the aggression by the Reagan administration."

"Because of all this we propose that, as a contribution to peace, the U.S. Congress make efforts and take initiatives to stop the intervention process." Only in this way can there be a just and true solution that will permit our people to exercise their right to self-determination and that will spare the American people from another nefarious war experience. "We are certain that the U.S. Congress can lead this process toward peace with the same authority it now exercises to protect the supply of military aid, which is continuing and worsening the war."

[Signed] Commander Roberto Roca, Commander Ferman Cienfuegos, Commander Leonel Gonzalez, Commander Shafick Jorge Handal, and Commander Joaquin Villalobos

GUATEMALA

MEXICAN EMBASSY EXPLOSION CONFIRMED AS ACCIDENT

PA171659 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] As the public relations secretary has stated, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade yesterday reiterated that the incident at the Mexican Embassy on Wednesday was an unfortunate accident. He said it was a lamentable incident in which two Guatemalans died. The foreign minister said that the Mexican Embassy at no time said that it was a terrorist attack and instead considered it an accident and left the entire investigation up to the Guatemalan authorities.

Foreign Minister Andrade said that he got in touch with Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda the day of the incident and that Sepulveda confirmed that the incident would not affect the good and cordial relations between Mexico and Guatemala.

Andrade added that the investigations by the Guatemalan authorities fully established that the incident at the Mexican Embassy was an accident that unfortunately resulted in the death of two Guatemalan employees.

HONDURAS

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT PROTESTS EPS ATTACKS

12 Aug Choluteca Incident

PA162008 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1927 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 Aug (DPA) -- Soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] of Nicaragua entered Honduran territory through the country's southern area, attacked the residents of a village, and even stole a mule, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat charged today.

According to Deputy Foreign Secretary Tomas Arita, the incident took place on Monday when four Sandinist soldiers, armed with rifles and hand grenades, entered the village of Las Manos, Choluteca Department, bordering Nicaragua. After threatening the area residents, the EPS soldiers stole a mule, a horse, a clock, and some money, and then returned to their country.

According to Arita, Honduran peasants Vidal Betancourt Oseguera and Fermin Mondragon complained about the attack to the Choluteca military authorities.

In the letter addressed to the Nicaraguan Government, Arita points out that this is another act that shows the aggressiveness of the Nicaraguans, whose authorities cannot control the looting of their Army members.

The Honduran deputy foreign minister concluded by saying that Honduras strongly protests this attitude and again reiterates that Nicaragua should study these incidents and not allow such actions to endanger relations between our countries.

14 Aug El Paraiso Incident

PA171844 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1759 GMT 17 Aug 85

[By Francisco Javier Mejia]

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- "We are reaching the limits of our tolerance," stated a high-ranking Honduran Army officer today commenting on the killing of a sergeant by Nicaraguan troops.

According to an official report released to the press, last Wednesday at noon Sandinist People's Army troops penetrated Honduran territory through "La Laguna' sector in bordering El Paraiso Department.

A group of 10 men ambushed a Honduran 6th Infantry Battalion patrol, killed Sergeant Pedro Mondragon Rostran, and seriously wounded soldier Ricardo Henriquez Colindres.

The officer, who chose to remain anonymous, recalled that "this is the second aggression that we have suffered this week by the Sandinists, who constantly and deliberately provoke armed border incidents."

In protesting the attack on the Honduran patrol, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat stated: "We are not willing to lose any more lives, which is why these unjustified aggressions will be energetically repelled."

This is the first time the Honduran Government has warned the Sandinist regime about possible reprisals resulting from attacks on its soldiers from Nicaragua. The note signed by Deputy Foreign Secretary Tomas Arita Valle asks Nicaragua "that the false desire for peace that its government claims to have be translated into concrete actions once and for all, showing at the negotiations table sponsored by the Contadora Group a firm will to maintain respectful relations with its neighboring countries."

Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama comprise the Contadora Group, which formulated a document for peace and cooperation, seeking a diplomatic solution to the Central American crisis.

Meanwhile, the Honduran Army is investigating the probable mining of large stretches of its border with Nicaragua, which was denounced in Washington by leaders of the Nicaraguan armed opposition, Adolfo Calero Portocarrerro and Alfonso Robelo.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA SPEAKS ON U.S. AGGRESSION, EDUCATION

PA181800 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1929 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega on "Face the People" program to leaders of the Federation of High School Students at Esteli on 17 August; broadcast in progress -- recorded]

[Text] We are holding this "Face the People" program with students, who are part of the Nicaraguan people. While this meeting was being prepared, a certain situation exists here in this 1st Region. It is war. Clashes with mercenary forces take place every day along the border. A few days ago mercenary forces tried to raid Esteli and threatened the small village of La Trinidad. What had these mercenaries been told for them to act, let's say, quote, so boldly, unquote? They had been told that they would reach Managua because they were going to have the support and backing of other governments, including the U.S. Government and of troops sent to them directly. This is why the counterrevolutionaries literally committed themselves. They thought they were headed directly for Managua.

But they met with the resistance of the heroic people of Esteli and La Trinidad. The rapid deployment of our Unconventional Warfare Battalions [BLI] -- of the combatants of the Patriotic Military Service who form part of the BLI -- our Sandinist Air Force, and our Sandinist mines, caused more than 200 casualties among the mercenary forces, including those dead and taken prisoner.

For some of these terrorists, the trip to Managua was one way. Others have returned to Honduras. Only yesterday, groups of terrorists, which had been left disabled and are now being pursued by our Armed Forces, continued to carry out liberating actions, as President Reagan describes them. A short time ago, in the south at the San Juan River, they kidnapped some Americans and took them to Costa Rican territory, thus confirming the use of Costa Rican territory by these mercenaries. This was an open terrorist action that the U.S. Government did not dare to describe as such, or even as a kidnapping, although U.S. citizens were among those kidnapped. Yesterday three teachers were kidnapped in this area. [Words indistinct] a few teachers have been abducted. That is the result of the imperialists' aggression against the educational sector on what we might describe as the most sensitive area of education, the students' and teachers' lives and safety. To this we would have to add the destruction of schools. The U.S. terrorists and mercenaries have come to destroy our schools. They destroy every school they meet along their way. They murder or kidnap every teacher they meet along their way. They murder or kidnap every student they meet along their way.

This is a big challenge for our country. It is even beyond our own forces' ability to actively and effectively combat this aggression by the U.S. Government. We confront powerful forces. We confront powerful forces. [Ortega repeats himself] The struggle is big because at this moment we are still bent on defending the development of educational programs and the mass education that the revolution succeeded in institutionalizing in the country for the first time. We are bent on raising the quality and the results of education. But to do this, human and material resources are required. But we must face aggression and contribute our share of sacrifice in this confrontation. Solving the problems in education in Nicaragua are much greater than in any other Latin American country, much greater. We have problems related to material and financial resources and, as we have already said, first of all, human resource problems. So this is how the struggle presents itself for the revolution that continues to defend the right to maintain and develop educational programs even in the middle of this difficult and critical situation. The enemy wants to break down the country's educational system, as well as the country's whole economy in order to destroy the country and stop the revolution. This is the overall picture. This is the big element, however we want to describe it. The whole nation shares a common responsibility to confront this aggression. The country's capability to normalize education will depend on stopping U.S. aggression.

This morning we met here to discuss education. We have avoided repeating the topic of war. We have rather elected to discuss educational problems. Nevertheless, we have had to mention the war because if we ask for human and technical resources for the Chontales Agricultural Institute, for example, we have to remember that the number of agricultural technicians in this country is quite limited. There is a great demand for these technicians by the production sectors, which have precedence over other sectors. In addition, Nicaraguan agricultural technicians are the targets of U.S. Government terrorist action in the course of their work. Four technicians of the Ministry of Agricultural-Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform [Midirna] were murdered 1 week ago, just because these technicians had been developing an agricultural project in the 5th Region. They were murdered, just like that. In other words, agricultural technicians are targets of the counterrevolutionaries. These agricultural technicians only help peasants produce. So we have this overall problem that limits material and human resources because the enemy has destroyed a sizable number of schools [words indistinct]. Meanwhile we have continued to build more schools because people keep asking for more schools. There is hardly a place left that has not asked for a school.

Meanwhile, although our resources are limited, we must rebuild the schools that have been destroyed. The companeros who await new schools will have to wait. They will have to wait and [words indistinct] more or less acceptable. Otherwise, they will have to try to improvise in some peasant's hut, or perhaps under a tree. We are forced to reach down to these levels because of the aggression against our country. These are the overall problems. There are other more domestic problems. They are more domestic. We speak of the revolutionary government's efforts, the FSLN's political effort, the Ministry of Education's [MED] and the Federation of Secondary School Student's [FES] effort. These things are more closely related to us. It is up to us to see whether this moves forward or not. If all this moves forward, we will still have a critical and difficult situation because of the war. But some advantage would be gained by fostering education. There would be more efficiency by favoring an educational effort. We would also have fewer problems in this way. We would be in a better position to confront the big overall problems posed by the enemy. We would only shoot at the enemy; we would not have to shoot at each other. So we must attain this degree of efficiency: a degree of efficiency and coordination in the educational sector that would allow us to relegate problems to a secondary level, a level that would not bring about a crisis in the educational sector. Then the educational sector, acting as one, could face the big problems posed by the aggression. These are the main problems.

Secondary problems should be overcome in a more rational and efficient way. Undoubtedly new problems will emerge every day. The way we face these problems is very important so that the problems do not become critical. Problems must be looked at as part of everyday tasks that must be tackled in the best way possible so that they don't create crises.

The fact that a teacher, for example, does not fulfill his work schedule while being able to do so, is a problem that creates crises. If there is a teacher who cannot fulfill his work schedule because he has to do something else then let him stop being a teacher and dedicate himself to his other tasks.

There are teachers who do not fulfill their work schedules without justification. This is even worse. The problem is that a teacher is a teacher, and if a teacher does not have any discipline with his own class schedule, then his students will surely follow the teacher's example and have no class discipline.

We cannot say that the lack of discipline by a teacher is the same as the lack of discipline by a student, or the same as the lack of discipline by ourselves. We cannot compare these three degrees of responsibility. Those who have different roles have different responsibilities. Teachers have a social role to play.

If a teacher argues that he has transportation, salary, or any other problem and therefore cannot fulfill his obligations, then it is better that he does not work as a teacher so that we can look for a teacher who will fulfill his work schedule. This problem must be overcome, and it must be overcome by the teachers themselves.

Teachers have had to go to pick coffee. There are some 5,000, 6,000 or 7,000 teachers picking coffee. In the summer students pick coffee alongside the teachers.

There is no justification for a teacher to be absent from class under normal circumstances. As the revolution's directing body for orienting and implementing educational policies, the MED must exercise control. This control is basic.

Not only MED officials, but also teachers must respond to this control. As has been mentioned here, there are still problems with gaining a greater awareness of the educational situation in the country, with what the true educational situation is. This is a very complex matter, but we have to know what the problems are, or what the true situation is, so that we can rationalize our resources. The MED is the rector on this. It has to manage this task so that we can determine where the main problems lie so that we can all dedicate ourselves to resolving the main problems in night and day schools.

As a result of the embargo and blockade policy that the United States has implemented against Nicaragua, we have requested the aid of a GDR technical mission. We want the technical commission to do research on agriculture and education, among other sectors.

We have discovered truly abnormal situations. There are some technological academies that have good, modern machinery and equipment that are not being used; there is equipment just lying around, not being used. That equipment can perfectly well be used for repair parts, which are so necessary now that the United States has closed its doors to us, and so that both students and professors can develop their inventive capabilities to help face the blockade problem.

When we see situations such as these, we realize that these are the kinds of problems that can and must be resolved.

There is another problem. This involves the tasks of associations such as FES, the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers [Anden], or political organizations such as the [Sandinist] Youth.

We have stated that the various sectors must make efforts to strengthen their leadership chain. We have said that in the education sector the leadership chain starts at the MED. The FES may think whatever it wants. This is also for Anden and the [Sandinist] Youth.

We have the National Education Council where all ideas can be submitted for discussion. There are also the regional councils and the meetings at the various academies where all these problems can be discussed. But we cannot enter into a competition with the MED on the authority issue. Neither the [Sandinist] Youth, nor FES, nor Anden can direct education. Education is directed by the MED. Teachers, student organizations, and youth organizations, among others, are sources of support for education.

If we don't get this established, we will be promoting disorganization and chaos in a sector where both organization and discipline are most needed. If a school principal or teacher is deficient, or is failing, then we have to see how to resolve this problem, but the action must be taken by the MED. The MED has to be on top of this, listening to the various associations and organizations that have to do with education.

Another important point that we must overcome, once and for all, is the tendency to hold meetings during school hours. I cannot now tell you where this tendency is more marked. School hours must not be affected by meetings of FES, of the [Sandinist] Youth, or of Anden. School hours cannot be affected. Meetings must take place after school hours.

We have insisted on this also in the production and government apparatus sectors. There must be a halt to meetings during work hours. What is the most important task of a worker at this moment? To produce! That's the most important task! A worker is a good Sandinist militant if he is very productive.

If a worker has no political responsibilities but a specific role in the production sector, and then he goes to meeting after meeting and does not produce, then he is no good as a militant. [Words indistinct] to work as a professional cadre in a labor union or in any trade union.

The main task of students is to study. That is their main task. For this reason students cannot be affected by meetings during school hours. Meetings must be held after school hours. Such meetings will take effort and will depend on the disposition to attend a meeting. Many students are glad to leave their classrooms to attend meetings; others say they are going to a meeting and then they go play instead.

Therefore, it is necessary for each institution, each organization to play a responsible role. Mobilization and action are necessary here. This must be carried out in an organized fashion, not in a disorganized way.

Activities must affect the educational program as little as possible. We have enough problems implementing and following up on educational programs, so we don't have to add any new problems to the sector.

I have noticed here, because of the questions that have been asked, that there is a need for more communication, unless the problem is that someone does not want to listen. The FES companeros have spoken about some problems and MED companeros have responded that these problems are being resolved or have been resolved.

This makes it evident that there is a communication problem, that there is no communication between the MED and the FES. If there were communication, then we would not have this problem because the companeros from FES would know that their problems are being resolved.

The communication problem is fundamental. It is important to understand the efforts that the MED, ANDEN, FES, and the [Sandinist] Youth are making. This effort must not involve competition. It cannot be like that. If there is a competitive attitude, then there will be a deterioration in the overall effort, and the implementation of plans will be delayed.

This has to be a well-coordinated effort with everybody clearly understanding his role: Some have a complementary role, and others have a primary responsibility role. Let everybody clearly understand his role.

It is important that you at this meeting, at this assembly, establish in the best way you can what should be the role of the institution and that of the associations.

Companeros, we have received a letter from the companeros of the Roman Esteban Toledo Teacher's School. They mention three problems. The letter is signed first by the representative of FES, then by the representative of ANDEN, then by the representatives of teachers, although I don't understand this since ANDEN represents the teachers. Anyhow, the important thing is that the last to sign the letter is the director. I don't know if the director is a woman or man. It is a woman.

Since a certain amount of respect is necessary to strengthen authority -- otherwise we would be the victims of chaos -- it is the director who should have signed this letter first. This is just a small detail. This situation projects natural tendencies that occur in revolutionary processes. It projects problems that are present not only here but in all sectors. We have the obligation to overcome these problems.

These tendencies are loaded with good intentions. Everyone is acting this way in the belief that this is the right thing to do, that this is the policy, that this is the appropriate thing to do, that this is the best thing for the revolution.

We cannot let ourselves be led by everyone's interpretation of his role within the revolution. We must clearly accept our role in the revolution as it has been defined. In this way we can march in a more organized and coordinated fashion without seeing each other as competitors. We must see each other as part of a common effort. The person with the highest responsibility must not think that his position of responsibility puts others beneath him and gives him the right to ignore what others say. On the contrary. His responsibility obligates him to listen to others and to improve his performance.

He must promote criticism. He must promote answers for the problems. He must not think that he alone can find answers for all the problems and discover all the conflictive situations. He must rely on teachers, on FES.

There has to be a clear effort to improve, in the first place, the quality of the school directors, to improve the quality and responsibilities of regional directors of the MED, of the academies, and of the teachers.

Those who have the highest responsibilities must convey their quality and their responsibility. This is, as a matter of fact, a problem of the revolution. This has to do with backwardness, with the disorganized patterns we inherited in the field of education. We are struggling against all that.

School directors have not been educated by the revolution. No school director has been trained by the revolution to be a revolutionary. But directors have experience. They have either technical and scientific training or specialized training in the field of education. They have the experience.

We have to see how teachers working as directors improve. If they don't work out, then the MED Ministry must be alert to this. If someone is a bad director, then it would be better that he be a good teacher rather than a poor school director. Then we can look for a teacher who can be a good director, and who can exercise his authority in a constructive, creative fashion and with self-criticism, creativeness, and in coordination with FES, ANDEN, the [Sandinist] Youth, and as many sectors as necessary.

Definitions are important. All the problems we have mentioned are problems that do harm, that work against us. This is not a matter of actions by the enemy. This is a problem of ours. This is not a problem resulting from imperialist aggression. This is a problem of ours that we can and must overcome.

Here we have mentioned the problem of electricity in one school. A companera here spoke about that problem. Another spoke about the food problem. There are many problems.

We have analyzed and evaluated the educational effort of the revolution in these 6 years of the revolution, especially considering the current circumstances. We have found that the truth is that we don't have enough resources to satisfy all the material hopes we created following the revolutionary victory. We must adapt the educational system to the true possibilities, to the material possibilities, to the technical and scientific possibilities of the country.

The truth is that the situation we are enduring now is very difficult, very critical. Our Army's fighters, undoubtedly, have the highest amount of heroism. They also make the greatest sacrifices.

We have been, perhaps, centering our efforts on guaranteeing that fighters enduring very difficult situations get at least a ration of beans [words indistinct] and perhaps we have not given enough attention to other sectors, including education.

If the budget is too low, we cannot simply change it. If with this budget [words indistinct] then we have to explain that this is the situation. In the end, we may have to eliminate some of the technological and agricultural schools and concentrate our efforts on the few remaining ones, if there are too many work- or budget-related problems.

Perhaps we should use our resources better, as some of you have proposed here -- and we agree with this -- and instead of giving scholarships -- and there are not too many scholarships -- to students who want a formal high school education, we might be better off giving these scholarships to students wanting careers as technicians rather than technological theorists, which is what companeros who have not practiced their trade become. A policy that produces technological theorists is not in line with our true needs.

What I am saying is that instead of having seven technological schools, perhaps we should keep three and guarantee that the students who go there put their skills to practical use and may [word indistinct] whatever they want.

We have to study the true educational situation better. To do this there must first be an effort on the part of the MED, FES, and ANDEN.

We must see what the true situation is. What is this true situation? The true situation is that we have a certain number of schools functioning under certain conditions involving qualified personnel -- teachers, technicians, etc. -- as well as supplies. We check this against the country's budget possibilities and against the country's human resources and then we start rationalizing. If we find that it is possible to include in the budget the salaries of technical personnel in the facilities we have at this moment, and that this is not being done because the facilities are being misused or ill-used, then let's include them because the problem is a lot of disorder; what is needed is order.

But if we find -- and I think this is what is happening -- that there are deteriorated facilities, that as a result of the aggression there is a deterioration in the availability of qualified teachers and students -- since students have to be mobilized for the defense -- then we must accommodate education in line with the country's true material possibilities. In the past few days we have been discussing the problems resulting from the aggression.

We are increasingly convinced that if there were no aggression, then, considering the external cooperation we have had, Nicaragua would be developing all the educational and social programs we drew up for ourselves at the beginning of the revolution. We would not be discussing many of the education sector problems we are discussing here.

However, the fact is that we are facing a criminal and terrorist aggression from a big power, the United States, and it does not look like this aggression is going to end. For this reason we have to make sure our economic and social progress are in line with the true material and human resource possibilities of the country. We cannot work on social and production programs that are not in line with our true situation because then we will have a permanent deficit of material resources, of funds, of laboratories, of teachers, and of qualified technicians in the education sector. This would not be a good road.

We believe it is fundamental that there is a careful analysis in the education sector about the true situation of education in this country. We are not talking about the number of students who have registered, but about the material capacity to give service to the students who have registered, about the budget that the state can assign to the demands of the education sector. This is fundamental.

It is most important that we regulate education, that we regulate the functioning of the various associations and organizations involved in the education sector, that we clearly understand the functions of each one, that we establish better coordination and communication links, and that we turn education into a common struggle. In this way we will be in a better position to face the foreign aggression that is hurting education.

Let's wait for the result of this assembly [words indistinct] that this may help the MED, the teachers, the central government, the political leadership of the country, and the national leadership to better guide or to reorient the tasks of the education sector.

We are sure that you are going to contribute, as you have contributed this morning, to the defense for the development of the education sector within the Sandinist people's revolution. Thank you. [applause]

NO NOTIFICATION RECEIVED ON ENVOY TO COSTA RICA

PA161545 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose, Costa Rica, has not received official notification from the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry that it is not granting approval to Claudia Chamorro Barrios, the new Nicaraguan ambassador to the Luis Alberto Monge government.

Ricardo Caleno, second secretary of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica, told this radio station via telephone that as late as yesterday he had not received a note from Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez stating that the approval of the new Nicaraguan ambassador was withdrawn. Regarding the delay by the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry in accepting Claudia Chamorro, Caleno said he only knows what has been reported by the Costa Rican news media.

TINOCO ADDRESSES GUTIERREZ ON SECURITY ZONE

PA161439 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Nicaragua has insisted on the need to create a security zone on its common border with Costa Rica so that the absence of an armed presence in the area can guarantee the nonrecurrence of any kind of military incident. This was stated in a letter from Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco to Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrrz dated 7 August and released today in Managua.

The Nicaraguan Government believes that the establishment of such a zone will fulfill the Nicaraguan leadership's interest in maintaining peace with Costa Rica, and the neutrality policy declared by President Luis Alberto Monge which the revolutionary government has repeatedly described as wise.

ARMY PREPARING FOR BIG GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE

PA170225 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2301 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Managua, 16 Aug (REUTER) -- The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry announced today that the Nicaraguan Army is preparing for a big rebel offensive and that violent clashes have already occurred in five northern departments.

Military sources have reported that Luis Carrion, member of the FSLN National Directorate that rules Nicaragua, traveled to Esteli in the country's north to organize the resistance.

Carrion told journalists that the anti-Sandinist rebels have been having supplies airdropped to their bases in the mountains and that this indicates that an important military rebel operation has begun.

He added: The Nicaraguan Democratic Front, FDN, rebels, based in Honduras, have been infiltrating men and weapons into five departments of the northern mountainous region since June.

The Defense Ministry has reported that the Army inflicted 66 casualties on the rebels, including dead and wounded, in clashes in these five departments between 8 and 15 August, as well as in four other departments in the country's southern and central regions.

Carrion said that a guerilla force of about 1,250 men launched a preliminary attack at the beginning of the month, but it was severely beaten by Sandinist troops. He added that the "contras," as the rebels are known, wanted to seize political control in the country's north. This would have been a propaganda victory that would have demoralized the Nicaraguan people.

The FDN's rebel force, 12,000 strong, is supported by the United States in its struggle against the Nicaraguan Government. Washington accuses Nicaragua of maintaining a Marxist-Leninist dictatorship and trying to export the leftist revolution to the rest of Central America.

GOVERNMENT REPORTS MORE THAN 100 CONTRAS KILLED

PA171728 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Bulletin issued by the Defense Ministry Public and Foreign Relations Directorate, dated Managua, 16 August]

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] continues to frustrate the counterrevolutionary plans. More than 100 counterrevolutionaries have been annihilated in the areas of Las Torres Hill, El Jocote, (El Ventarron), and Gusanera River, located south of Wiwili, northwest of (Abisinia), and east of Pantasma, as part of the operation the EPS has been carrying out in that region since 12 August. Units of the Simon Bolivar Battalion for Unconventional Warfare and permanent territorial militias have played a major role in this operation.

Along with the Sandinist Air Force, they have dealt crushing blows to the counterrevolutionary plan to again attack the Pan-American Highway with 1,000-1,200 counterrevolutionaries who gathered in that area near Sebaco.

Managua, 16 August 1985

[Signed] Defense Ministry Public and Foreign Relations Directorate

BORGE COMMENTS ON ATLANTIC COAST AUTONOMY

'Advancing Steadily'

PA171657 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Commander Tomas Borge said last night that the cayuco [small dugout canoe] of autonomy of the Atlantic coastal area is advancing steadily. The autonomy of the Atlantic coastal area is possible because we have achieved national autonomy, Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge said last night when closing the first technical seminar on the autonomy process of the region held at the headquarters of the National Council of Higher Education in Managua.

The ceremony was attended by the members of the National Commission on the Autonomy of the Atlantic Coastal Area, of which Commander Borge is president. The project for the autonomy of the coastal area is advancing strongly, as a cayuco being led through a storm, and no floods or ambushes will stop it, the FSLN National Directorate member said.

Commander Borge gave a historical account of the coastal peoples' submission to the British Empire and U.S. imperialism, and said that the victorious cayuco of coastal autonomy will now reach the area where the sun is shining because it has become the flesh and blood of these people.

Discusses Rivera Talks

PA171653 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] The revolutionary government is waiting for an answer from Brooklyn Rivera, one of the chiefs of the Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity, about holding talks in Nicaragua on the most urgent problems.

The announcement was made last night by Interior Minister and Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, who is president of the National Commission for the Autonomy of the Atlantic Coastal Area.

Commander Borge then referred to the efforts made by the Nicaraguan Government since 1984 when cease-fire agreements were reached with Brooklyn Rivera. The interior minister said that Rivera unilaterally suspended the negotiations with the Nicaraguan Government when he sent a letter to President Daniel Ortega requesting the dissolution of the National Commission for the Autonomy of the Atlantic Coastal Area. Commander Borge added: There are thousands of Nicaraguans on the Atlantic coast and in the rest of the country who are interested in the autonomy project.

MISURA'S FAGOTH SOUGHT BY INDIAN GROUPS

Asla Members Comment

PA161913 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0235 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Miami, Florida, 15 Aug (EFE) -- Anti-Sandinist leader Steadman Fagoth, who until a few days ago was the military chief of the Miskitos, Sumus and Ramas, Misura, was imprisoned by his own men, members of the Indian Asla Commission told EFE today.

One cannot deceive and kill the people without the people reacting. This was the explanation given for Fagoth's arrest by two members of the recently created Asla Commission that groups the representatives of the various Nicaraguan Indian tribes.

The Misura organization decided to expel Fagoth, its military chief, after he kidnapped 12 of his people, who had accused him of betraying the struggle agaisnt the Managua regime, for several days. EFE was told that Fagoth arrested 12 Misura Indians, including Genaro Bell, an outstanding member of the Council of the Old.

Faoth's fate will be determined in the next few days by the Council of the Old, the main organization with authority over the Indians of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coastal area.

Last June the representatives elected from the various Indian and Creole tribes in Nicaragua, who were then at war with the Managua regime and divided, announced in Miami the political-military unity of the Indian movement.

This movement is made up of Misura led by Fagoth; Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata] led by Brooklyn Rivera, and Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity-Southern Indigenous Creoles Communities [Misurasata-Sicc] that groups the English-speaking black Creoles whose leader is Jenelee Hodgson.

Fagoth's problems within his organization were the reason he was not elected to the Asla Commission, which is entrusted with the formal, total reunification of all Indian groups.

However, in June Fagoth signed the document creating Asla with the participation of Mullins Tullet, president of the influential Council of the Old.

Asla members Norman Campbell and Eddy Matute accused Fagoth of murdering 70 companions and of promoting divisions within the Indian movement, Asla spokesmen told EFE.

The Asla Commission represents approximately 175,000 Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Indians, and approximately 60,000 black Creoles who seek the autonomy and independence of the Indians.

The anti-Sandinist rebels currently form three different blocs: the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) led by Adolfo Calero, Arturo Cruz, and Alfonso Robelo; the Southern Opposition Bloc (BOS), which includes Commander Eden Pastora's group, among others; and Asla, composed of the Indian union.

Asla members told EFE that they would oppose the channeling of the $27 million recently approved by the Reagan administration -- as it is apparently planned -- through UNO, the most important group that has the support and confidence of the U.S. Government.

Asla members told EFE that until now UNO has crushed us, without wanting to recognize our political influence. They have not wanted to give us arms or ammunition; they have promoted internal divisions, they added.

Misura Denies Arrest

PA170346 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Aug 85

[By Armando Cerrato]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Indian rebel group Misura has not arrested its former military chief Steadman Fagoth Muller, a spokesman of that organization told ACAN-EFE today.

The spokesman, who asked not to be identified, nevertheless admitted that "there is an order for his arrest and our forces are looking for him in different parts of Nicaragua."

The Misura spokesman siad that "the international news media reports to the effect that we took Steadman prisoner in Honduras are false. We do not know who said that. We are investigating the case."

The spokesman added that "Misura is not looking for Steadman in Honduras, because our organization has all its operational cadres in Nicaraguan territory, where a war against the Sandinist regime of Managua is being waged."

"If we capture Steadman Fagoth Muller," the spokesman said, "we are going to hold a summary trial to decide whether or not we expel him from the organization. One thing is certain, however, and that is that he has lost the power he had."

The Misura organization is composed of the Midkito, Sumu, and Rama Indians of the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. It also has an elders council with authority above all levels, a political directorate, and a general staff for military affairs.

According to the spokesman, Steadman Fagoth Muller "was the military chief, but he was an autocrat who tried to rule over the general staff and the elders council, who sought to become a dictator."

The spokesman said that "a few weeks ago Steadman tried to deal a coup de grace by attempting to dissolve the elders council and the general staff, but he failed. That is why he was stripped of his duties as military chief and will be brought to trial to be expelled from the organization."

He said that "Steadman came up with the idea the Misura should have one single organization with him as the supreme chief, in which he would be both general and messenger, in which only his opinion would be valid."

Another charge against Steadman Fagoth Muller is that "he was ordering military operations without any previous planning and most of these failed because no precautionary measures were taken and he often disregarded the orders from the general staff chiefs."

In view of his military failures, in order not to leave him out of the struggle and because of his academic training and his contacts abroad, Misura's elders council decided to name him to the political commission, but he did not accept.

Misura says that in its action against Steadman Fagoth Muller it has the support in Nicargua of the other two Indian organizations opposed to the Sandinists -- Misurasata, led by Brooklyn Rivera, and Misurasata-Sicc, led by Jenelee Hodgson.

Steadman Fagoth Muller's parents are German, but he was born 33 years ago in Esquipulas, a town in Zelaya Department, on the Atlantic coast of Nicargua. He studied marine biology.

Detained in Honduras

PA170012 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2301 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 16 Aug (REUTER) -- Honduran troops stopped former Nicaraguan rebel leader Steadman Fagoth Muller, an Indian who last week attempted to recover control of his guerrilla group Misura by force, a ranking Honduran official said today.

Our source explained that Fagoth was arrested on Monday and is being kept at Army installations in the remote Honduran Mosquitia region, 290 km northeast of Tegucigalpa.

Fagoth secretly entered Honduras 1 month ago, and authorities are now studying his situation to determine if he must be deported, the official said.

The Indian leader was previously expelled from Honduras on the grounds that he was violating the law that prohibits refugees from making political statements.

MISURA RELEASES KIDNAPPED FRG TEACHER

PA181718 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1005 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Bonn, 18 Aug (REUTER) -- A teacher from the FRG kidnapped in Nicaragua by Misura Indians fighting the Sandinist government has been released, according to an announcement made today by the FRG Foreign Ministry. A spokesperson explained that the ministry had been advised by the FRG Embassy in Managua that Ingeborg Konradi, 30, had been released, but the embassy was unable to provide further details in connection with this incident.

The source added that the ministry had asked the embassy to check media reports according to which another FRG citizen identified as Ignes Enders had been illegally deprived of her freedom.

The Nicaraguan Information Office, a pro-Sandinist group based in Wuppertal, FRG, said that the rebels had held Konradi hostage for 2 days but that she is currently in Puerto Cabezas, on the Caribbean coast. At the time of her kidnapping, the teacher was visiting a place where various settlement projects sponsored by the information office are being developed.

The office explained that the circumstances under which Enders' alleged kidnapping had taken place were so similar to those in Konradi's case that the media reports might be mistaken.

PCC GREETS BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY ON ANNIVERSARY

AU051255 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Aug 85 p 6

[Text] The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] has sent a telegram to the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee on the occasion of the 94th anniversary of the BCP's founding. It conveys the most cordial greetings and wishes for success in implementing the important tasks concerning preparations for the forthcoming 13th party congress. The resolve to continue the strengthening of fraternal ties of friendship and cooperation between Cuban and Bulgarian Communist Parties and between our peoples is reaffirmed.

MALMIERCA MEETS IRAQI FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL

FL171232 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has received Iraqi under secretary for Foreign Affairs Wisam al-Zahawi in Havana. The two discussed aspects of bilateral relations between their respective countries, and the international situation.

REPORT ON ESPIONAGE TRIAL, CLASHES IN ANGOLA

PA170410 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] A trial is being carried out in Luanda in which five persons are being tried for being members of an espionage network. One of the defendants, Francisco Agatao Dangala, admitted today he had supplied information to South Africa about the installations at [name indistinct] airbase. It was reported that Agatao Dangala delivered his report on Angolan defense systems to agent Francisco Alberto Albarram Barata, who turned it over to the network's leader, Amilcar Fernandes Freyre, so that he could deliver it to the South African Embassy in Lisbon.

Other reports reveal that during clashes which took place during the past few weeks in the Angolan Provinces of Cunene, Cuando Cubango, and Moxico, the Angolan Army inflicted 183 dead on the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. Several UNITA counterrevolutionaries surrendered and various weapons were also confiscated.

NICARAGUA SEEN AS THREAT TO U.S. AREA POLICY

PA170242 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 15 Aug 85

["Our América" commentary]

[Text] Central America is experiencing an economic, political, and social crisis today which the United States is trying to deal with through armed confrontation in an effort to bolster obsolete structures that are the principal cause of the serious situation afflicting that region.

To discuss just one current problem, the foreign debt, we will refer to figures from ECLA, UN Economic Commission for Latin America, according to which it is estimated that in the next 5 years, the Central American countries will have to pay more than $10 billion in interest alone.

Each Central American owes the international banks $600, in circumstances in which, for long hours of daily work, he earns barely enough for his and his family's subsistence or survival. A year ago the Central American countries' foreign debt amounted to slightly more than $13 billion, which is the equivalent of 71 percent of the joint combined gross national product of that group of countries and more than 300 percent of their exports.

Although Central American countries have common problems, they should be analyzed in terms of the problems or by groupings. In El Salvador and Honduras, for example, the U.S. military presence is directly linked to the economy of these countries because of Washington's determination to maintain a war economy and to create an image of apparent stability in those countries. Costa Rica is also part of that scheme, as the United States gives it $2 million daily for that purpose in exchange for certain political gains.

Although Guatemala has proportionally the smallest foreign debt in the area, it is afflicted with an unprecedented flight of capital that has forced the country to mortgage its gold reserves and seek short-term credit.

On the other hand Nicaragua, with a foreign debt of $3.3 billion, tried to renegotiate it with the Paris Club members, as a whole, but only obtained bilateral agreements. However, Nicaragua's problem is different: The Nicaraguan Government has not been able to overcome the financial crisis caused by the inherited problems of underdevelopment, the structural independence [as heard] of the country, and the military aggression sponsored by the United States, which forces Nicaragua to appropriate more than 40 percent of its budget to defense.

This picture, although only an outline, proves that the United States is developing a policy towards Central America which seeks to reinforce militarily and politically regimes like those established in El Salvador and Honduras, and is using Costa Rica to close the noose of an aggressive rope around Nicaragua, and to strangle that country economically and militarily, so as to hinder the consolidation of the revolutionary process.

The United States has kept the Central American countries as banana republics, and that is why the Sandinist triumph of 19 June 1979 represents a challenge to the traditional order of things imposed by the gunships or the Yankee dollars. This is why the Sandinist people's revolution represents, to U.S. imperialist interests, a threat to the survival of the U.S. plan for the Central American republics.

RAUL CASTRO PRESIDES OVER DEFENSE TRAINING COURSE

FL161650 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The fifth defense training course for party and government leaders, leaders of cadres and mass organizations, first party secretaries of all the provinces, and FAR and Interior Ministry officers is being held in Camaguey under the chairmanship of Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the party Central Committee and FAR minister.

NUMBER OF FEMALE WORKERS INCREASES TO 1,180,940

FL161456 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1403 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] At the end of the first half of 1985, the number of female workers in Cuba totaled 1,180,940, which is 19,000 more than at the same time in 1984. The greatest number is found in the labor unions, education, science, sports, commerce, and restaurants, according to statistics compiled by the Department of Feminine Affairs of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC].

The Coordinating Commissions for Feminine Employment have played an important part in the increase in the number of female workers. These commissions exist in each municipality and its members come from both the CTC and the Federation of Cuban Women.

BAHAMAS

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER MEETING WITH CUBANS

FL161858 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Bahamian and Cuban foreign ministers and officials have concluded a 2-day meeting in Havana, Cuba. A joint statement issued today says the representatives of the two countries evaluated in a positive manner the results of the meeting which developed informal channels of communications between the two governments on a practical and functional level regarding matters of mutual interest. The Bahamas delegation was headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tourism, the Honorable Clement Maynard. The Honorable Isidoro Malmierca, the Cuban foreign affairs minister, headed the Cuban delegation.

JAMAICA

JRC INCREASES TRAIN FARES TO TRY TO RECOUP LOSSES

FL161842 Bridgetown CANA in English 1802 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 16, CANA -- The state-owned Jamaica Railway Corporation (JRC) today announced an increase in train fares effective next Monday in a move to recoup some of the projected six million dollar [one J dollar: 17 cents U.S.) loss in revenue from the shrinking bauxite industry.

The JRC used to provide an inland-to-port rail cargo service for the major bauxite and alumina companies here but with the closure of some companies as a result of a world market slump, the corporation has chalked up millions of dollars in lost revenue.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TRADE INCREASES DISCUSSED WITH JAMAICA

FL160052 Bridgetown CANA in English 2312 GMT 15 Aug 85

[By Debra Ransome]

[Excerpt] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Aug 15, CANA -- A senior Jamaican Industry Ministry official said today that the deteriorating trading relations between Jamaica and Trinidad could be arrested if both countries tried hard enough. Hugh Bonnick, director of commerce, was addressing representatives of the Trinidad and Tobago public and private sectors at the beginning of bilateral talks on trade. He is leading a delegation here to discuss increasing trade with this twin-island state.

The Jamaican delegation has come with open minds. For our part, we believe that the deteriorating trade relationship between Jamaica and Trinidad can be arrested if we put our minds to the task at hand. We in Jamaica have taken certain decisions which we believe will facilitate the resuscitation of trade between our two countries. Bonnick said that Kingston had moved toward a greater degree of tariff levels which will enhance trade between our two countries and the rest of the Caribbean region.

Trade between Port-of-Spain and Jamaica have been affected by import restrictions imposed by this country and foreign exchange problems in Jamaica.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CONTADORA DEPUTY MINISTERS TO MEET IN PANAMA

PA161907 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1653 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Bogota, 16 Aug (DPA) -- Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo today announced that the four deputy foreign ministers of the four Contadora Group countries will meet tomorrow in Panama City. The meeting of the deputy foreign ministers of Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela will end on Tuesday. The officials will prepare the documents that will be studied by the Contadora foreign ministers in Cartagena next week.

The Cartagena meeting will also be attended by the foreign ministers of Peru, Uruguay, Brazil, and Argentina, which comprise the so-called Latin American support group for the peace efforts that the Contadora Group is carrying out.

Foreign Minister Ramirez Ocampo told DPA that efforts will be made to hold a meeting of plenipotentiaries of the Central American countries and representatives of the Contadora Group to study the peace document proposed by the Group in order to reach an agreement on the security document about which the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras have reservations.

The eight Latin American foreign ministers (four from Contadora and four from the support group) will meet in Cartagena on 23, 24, and 25 August.

GUYANA

HOYTE APPOINTS BURNHAM'S WIDOW TO CABINET POST

PA171854 Paris AFP in Spanish 1824 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Georgetown, 17 Aug (AFP) -- Viola Burnham, widow of late Guyanese President Forbes Burnham, was appointed minister of social welfare [as received] of the cabinet headed by her husband's successor, Desmond Hoyte.

Viola Burnham, a pedagogue educated in Great Britain, heads the Women's Revolutionary Socialist Movement (WRSM), the principal women's organization of the Caribbean.

VENEZUELA

GOVERNMENT CONFIRMS ANTI-CASTROITE'S ESCAPE

PA181959 Paris AFP in Spanish 1856 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Caracas, 19 Aug [date as received] AFP -- This afternoon, the Venezuelan Government issued an official communique confirming that Cuban anti-Castroite Luis Posada Carriles has escaped from jail in the town of San Juan de los Morros. Justice Minister Jose Manzo Gonzalez stated that he has fired the jail's warden, and that a group of detectives have begun a massive operation in the zone, 139 km south of Caracas.

Posada Carriles is one of the persons involved in blowing up a Cubana de Aviacion airplane shortly after it departed from Barbados in October 1976, killing 73 persons. The other persons accused are anti-Castroite physician Orlando Bosch, and Venezuelans Freddy Lugo and Hernan Ricardo.